



Daily Report

East Europe

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Szuos Announces Tripartite Agreement

LD211709 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian
1100 GMT 21 Jan 88

["First part" of press conference held in Budapest on 21 January, conducted by Andras Gulyas, head of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Press Department, with "Traditional introductory speech" by Matyas Szuos, MSZMP Central Committee Secretary and chairman of the National Assembly Foreign Affairs Committee—recorded]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] [Gulyas] Good morning. Greetings to the foreign and domestic journalists who have come to this press conference, and to Matyas Szuos, secretary of the MSZMP Central Committee, chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the National Assembly. I give the microphone to him.

[Szuos] Ladies and gentlemen, comrades. Greetings to those present, the foreign and domestic press representatives. The reason why we have asked you here is the following:

We would like to announce that the Finnish Social Democratic Party, the Italian Socialist Party, and the MSZMP propose the joint stand of the non-nuclear countries, their coordinated activity in the interest of maintaining European peace and security. We have worked out a joint document, a call which is now being released in Rome and Helsinki.

Why did we feel the need for this initiative? We are witnessing the unfolding of such processes which offer a chance for the start of substantive disarmament, the improvement of the security of the world and the strengthening of its peace. In December the Soviet Union and the United States signed an agreement on the complete elimination of medium- and shorter-range nuclear means. We see a realistic chance for the conclusion of an agreement about a 50-percent reduction of strategic nuclear arms. Negotiations on other important disarmament issues are also under way. The international situation has improved to a significant degree. Mutual mistrust is dissolving, albeit very slowly. The conditions for an agreement are better. All these are very important, but we cannot speak about an effective turn-about, a complete breakthrough, as long as the disarmament process does not become irreversible, as long as the means and capabilities for the destruction of each other and all mankind exist.

The problems of peace and disarmament particularly preoccupy us Europeans, for, as has become clear in the mind of all responsibly thinking politicians of our continent, any kind of armed confrontation between societies having different social systems in our region of the globe would unavoidably lead to a catastrophe. Today, the intention and political will are no longer sufficient—these are very important in themselves—for us avoiding the catastrophe. It is the capability itself which must be

eliminated, the tools themselves which must be destroyed. Everyone, every country, every political and social force has its own role and responsibility in this very long and complicated process. We are aware of the special responsibility of the two superpowers, the Soviet Union and the United States. More than 90 percent of the nuclear weapons accumulated on the globe are possessed by them. However, this cannot mean that other, non-nuclear countries—but the rest of the nuclear powers too—are merely the subjects of a process which is exclusively dictated by Soviet and American interests and will. It is precisely in the present circumstances that the fact that every country, members of alliance systems—neutral as well as nonaligned—should define their own intentions and goals has a special significance. They should seek in every way the possibility of forging a unified joint stance.

We consider that in the course of this the joint initiative of non-nuclear countries, their united stance, may be very important.

Let me speak briefly about the history of the initiative. The idea of a joint initiative of non-nuclear countries originally came from Kalevi Sorsa, the internationally reputed leader of the Finnish Social Democratic Party. In 1986, on the basis of negotiations held with him, we proposed to our parties to examine the possibilities together. This coincided in full measures with the intentions of the MSZMP. Following this our experts began intensive work. It filled us with great joy that the Italian Socialist Party, led by the prestigious politician Bettino Craxi, agreed to the idea of the initiative to such a degree that the Italian Socialist Party also took an active share in the elaboration of the possible content initiative and the document itself.

In many aspects, I consider it symbolic that the Social Democratic Party of Finland, which has an active neutralist policy, the Socialist Party of Italy, which is a member of NATO, and the HSWP of Hungary, a member of the Warsaw Pact, turn jointly to the leaders of the non-nuclear countries, to the responsible political and social forces there, in the interest of strengthening the security of our continent. We trust that, beyond the direct aim of the initiative—the strengthening of the security of our continent—it will contribute to the deepening of the dialogue and cooperation in Europe in a wider sense, too.

We have already presented to you the document about the three-party initiative. The most important aim of this document is to outline the political platform on the basis of which the Finnish Social Democratic Party, the Italian Socialist Party, and the HSWP consider a joint stance possible, and we defined those processes which take us nearer to our common goal, to enable Europe and the world to free itself from the nuclear threat.

I have already mentioned the fundamental interrelations of the initiative. The commitment to the Soviet-U.S. disarmament and arms limitation negotiations, the implementation of the adopted double-zero solution, the 50-percent reduction of strategic weapons, and respect for the ABM treaty signed in 1972 which limits the antimissile systems concretely enhance the security of Europe and the world. However, we are convinced that—as we defined it in the document—all Europe must play a decisive role in order for the building of confidence and the strengthening of disarmament to become a lasting and balanced process.

The nuclear nonproliferation treaty signed in 1968 and implemented in 1970 will expire after 25 years, in 1995. It is our conviction that the treaty has fulfilled its task, it has prevented the spread of nuclear weapons. Therefore, we consider it would be in the common interest of the non-nuclear countries to take a stand in favor of confirmation of the treaty. We deem that in these days it is also timely to deal with the question of influencing the continuation of the arms race and also the intensification of the arms buildup in areas not affected by the disarmament agreements.

What I have in mind is that following the double-zero option there are those who are endeavoring to bring about the modernization of conventional armament and forces. We must avoid this. Naturally we are aware that this cannot mean the unconditional maintenance of the present state of affairs and balance of forces. On the contrary, we consider the final and complete stopping of the arms race as conceivable only as a part of a comprehensive disarmament process. There are three areas, closely connected to each other, in which our parties see contributions by the non-nuclear countries to this peace process as being possible and necessary:

1. The central task in Europe today is the reduction of conventional arms and forces. The existing asymmetries, inequalities, must be eliminated in such a way that the side that has more weapons in a given area should reduce its forces and armaments. It is only in this way that a balance can be created at the lowest possible level of armament. The new low-level balance could be stipulated in a treaty, thus strengthening European stability.
2. The issue of nuclear weapons with a range less than 500 miles must also be placed on the agenda, together with the balance of conventional forces. According to certain arguments, it is the asymmetries in the sphere of conventional weapons which necessitate these weapons. Therefore, if these are eliminated the nuclear force will lose its justification for existence. It is possible and necessary to eliminate them.
3. Only mutual trust can serve as a basis of peace and security. Its establishment is a long-term and complex task. Within this, we single out the importance of

strengthening the defensive character of military doctrines. Our ultimate goal is what I have already mentioned—the creation of the kind of military capabilities that rule out the possibility of offensive action.

We are aware that this doesn't happen from one day to the next. The principle of mutuality and gradualness must be kept in view throughout, as well. The strengthening of the defensive character, together with the ideas outlined already, also encompass such steps as the creation of nuclear-free and chemical weapon-free zones and zones in which there are either no armaments, or only a low level of armaments, but it also means other forms of separation of military forces.

We consider the reduction or elimination of foreign troops based on the territories of European countries as an important part of the shaping of a new European balance, military behavior of a defensive character. It is our conviction that it is primarily on these timely issues that the small and medium-size countries can take an independent stand, and express constructive opinions and recommendations. All these things may represent a useful contribution to enlivening and expanding the Soviet-U.S. dialogue as well.

I would also like to emphasize that the initiative of the three parties fits organically into the already known European arms limitation concepts and proposals; and it is also closely connected to the European security and cooperation process. It is by no means our aim to expand the series of proposals with new ideas. We are looking for an effective method to enable as many countries as possible to join actively the process of arms limitation and disarmament, peace and security, and in the strengthening of trust.

I consider justified the question: "What concrete steps are possible in order to achieve these goals?" I emphasize that the initiative is an open one; we trust that leaders of the non-nuclear countries, the responsible political and social forces there, will receive our initiative favorably and will make recommendations themselves.

As a first step, I would like to announce that the Finnish Social Democratic Party, the Italian Socialist Party and the HSWP are ready to organize a conference of experts as early as this year. Who can participate in this? Fundamentally, these are experts in the communist and workers parties of the socialist countries and experts in the West European socialist and Social Democratic parties. This, naturally, does not mean that we intend to exclude anybody from the consultation. The interparty consultation's aim is not the working out of a document, but the summing up of the opinion and stance of the participating parties and experts. The organizers would then pass on these documents to the governments of all the countries interested in the Helsinki process, including of course, the nuclear powers.

The subjects are primarily those areas which I have already mentioned. It could also be an important task of the consultation to discuss subsequent steps that may be connected to the initiative of the non-nuclear countries. The place and date will be determined more precisely at a later stage, and so will the circle of participants.

It is these things I wanted to inform you about. Thank you for your attention. I am waiting for your possible questions.

Holds Press Conference

*LD211913 Budapest Domestic Service
in Hungarian 1730 GMT 21 Jan 88*

[Excerpts] An international news conference was held this morning simultaneously in Helsinki, Rome, and Budapest. Istvan Kulcsar reports for Hungarian radio from the Budapest news conference which took place in the ballroom of the Hilton hotel. [passage omitted on Szuros speech covered by previous item]

[Kulcsar] Matyas Szuros then answered questions by the journalists participating in the news conference. A reporter from the U.S. news agency UPI asked Matyas Szuros whether the initiative of the Hungarian, Finnish, and Italian parties was the first of its kind.

[Begin Szuros recording] There has not yet been an initiative of this nature. Therefore, this is the first of its kind. However, we know that in the Socialist Internationale, this theme has been discussed in some form—that is, the responsibility and possibilities of the small and medium-sized countries, and what the non-nuclear countries can do in the interests of peace and security.

So, these three parties have now put this proposal into concrete form, and we are now announcing this, as I have said, simultaneously in Rome, Helsinki, and Budapest. [end recording]

[Kulcsar] The last question at the international press conference came from the Budapest correspondent of the Italian paper L'UNITA, who asked if the initiative that had just been made public would be put on the table at the spring summit meeting of the NATO member-countries.

[Begin Szuros recording] We are most definitely counting on this, for one of the participating parties, as everyone knows, is a NATO country. I think that the nature of this kind of work—on whatever party line it is formulated—is that the initiators and also the later participants should consult, coordinate with, and inform their friends and allies, and not just them.

We think it decidedly desirable that this initiative of ours should be put before NATO, even at the next meeting. [end recording]

French Parliamentarians Arrive 21 Jan

*AU211956 Tirana Domestic Service in Albanian
1900 GMT 21 Jan 88*

[Text] A group of deputies of the French National Assembly arrived today in our country for a friendly visit. The group is led by Deputy (?Michel Berson). The French guests were welcomed at the airport by Rolanda Dhimitri, deputy of the People's Assembly and vice president of the Foreign Affairs Commission of the People's Assembly; Dritero Agolli, deputy of the People's Assembly and chairman of the Union of Writers and Artists of Albania; Jorgo Melica, chairman of the Albanian Committee for Friendly and Cultural Relations With Foreign Countries, and other comrades.

Philippe Legrain, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the French Republic to the People's Socialist Republic of Albania, was also present.

Received by Foto Cami

*AU212016 Tirana Domestic Service in Albanian
1900 GMT 21 Jan 88*

[Excerpts] Comrade Foto Cami, chairman of the Foreign Affairs Commission of the People's Assembly, today received the group of deputies of the French National Assembly led by Deputy (?Michel Berson), at the Presidium of the People's Assembly.

The reception was also attended by deputies Rolanda Dhimitri, Aleks Buda, Dritero Agolli, Lazar Koka, and Ylli Popa. [passage omitted]

In the name of the Foreign Affairs Commission of the People's Assembly, Comrade Foto Cami welcomed the French deputies and had a warm and friendly talk with them. Among other things, he expressed the sentiments of friendship and respect of the Albanian people for the French people and for their history and culture, which our unforgettable leader, Comrade Enver Hoxha, highly appreciated. Comrade Foto Cami spoke to the French

deputies about the foreign policy of our country, which corresponds to the aspirations of the peoples for freedom and independence. He also spoke about the efforts being made in Albania to make life more beautiful and prosperous, as well as about the determination of our people to further advance their successes in all fields of life, under the leadership of the party and led by Comrade Ramiz Alia. He then acquainted the French guests with the activity of the Foreign Affairs Commission of the People's Assembly and expressed the desire to further strengthen the friendly relations between Albania and France.

On his part, Deputy (?Michel Berson), leader of the group of deputies of the French National Assembly, expressed their pleasure concerning their visit to our country, considering this to be a great honor for the group and the entire French National Assembly. He pointed out, among other things, the freedom-loving spirit of our people, who have fought throughout the centuries for the country's independence, and expressed best wishes for even greater successes by the Albanian people.

Deputy Minister Kapllani Returns From Athens

*AU201943 Tirana Domestic Service in Albanian
1900 GMT 20 Jan 88*

[Text] Muhamet Kapllani, deputy foreign minister, returned home today after paying a brief official visit to Greece, where he exchanged opinions with high officials of the Greek Foreign Ministry in connection with preparations for the meeting of Balkan foreign ministers.

TU Delegation Leaves for Egypt 21 Jan

*AU212023 Tirana Domestic Service in Albanian
1900 GMT 21 Jan 88*

[Text] A delegation of the General Council of Albanian Trade Unions led by its president, Sotir Kocollari, left for a friendly visit to Egypt at the invitation of the Federation of Egyptian Trade Unions.

Finance Minister Comments on Agrarian Reform
AU211143 Sofia BTA in English
1042 GMT 21 Jan 88

["Economic Conditions for Speedy Agricultural Development"—BTA headline]

[Text] Sofia, January 21 (BTA)—In today's KOOPERATIVNO SELO, the Bulgarian cabinet member Mr Belcho Belchev comments on the latest party and government decisions aimed at creating economic conditions for the accelerated development of agriculture.

The feature says that the creation of the necessary prerequisites for self-support and self-financing of the self-managing agricultural organizations (workteams and agro-industrial complexes) is now a decisive point in the reform of agricultural management. Economic levers and mechanisms are being introduced on a wide scale to provide incentives for farming production and to regulate its development.

The system of prices and pricing is being improved. As of this year, agriculture will benefit from the introduction of surcharges to the existing purchase prices of agricultural produce. The surcharges will apply both to produce purchased from the public sector and to products purchased from the personal holdings and the subsidiary farms. To this end, additional budget allocations will be appropriated to the value of over 850 million leva. This measure will help the self-managing organizations increase considerably and speedily their accumulation of assets.

The rent tax introduced with the regulations for economic activity is defined as the basis for the actual existing rather than the realized rent incomes from a unit of area. It is an economic lever which compels the farmers to make more efficient use of the land they cultivate in order to realize the differential rent in its entire possible size.

Considerable finance and credit concessions are envisaged in order to help strengthen the agricultural organizations and to overcome the difficulties connected with the remuneration of the workers in 1985 and 1986 (when severe weather conditions affected adversely agriculture). The agricultural organizations will not be required to repay what is left of their loans which amounted to 530 million leva. The repayment of the agricultural organizations' debts for credits for acquiring fixed assets, made till the end of last year, have been rescheduled and are due to be paid by the end of 1992.

Atanasov Receives Visiting Soviet Ministers
AU211901 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian
1830 GMT 21 Jan 88

[Text] Council of Ministers Chairman Georgi Atanasov has received Vladimir Lukyanenko, minister of chemical and petroleum machine building of the USSR, and Nikolay Olshanskiy, minister of mineral fertilizer production of the USSR.

They discussed the implementation of bilateral agreements for deepening the integration of resources, technologies, and investments in the chemical industry and chemical machine building. Special attention was paid to utilizing new forms of cooperation in joint production and sales, including to third countries, of pesticides, new mineral fertilizers, and highly efficient chemical products.

The participants stressed the great importance of the Khimbiomash Bulgarian-Soviet International Trust in Khaskovo for increasing the efficiency of the foreign trade exchange between the two countries in chemical machine building. They also examined the expansion of cooperation in the production of consumer goods.

[Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian at 1600 GMT on 21 January, in an abbreviated report of the same meeting, adds that "the meeting was attended by Petko Danchev, chairman of the Biotechnological and Chemical Industry Association, and Soviet Ambassador Leonid Grekov"]

Soviets Attend Plant Opening
AU211944 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian
1830 GMT 21 Jan 88

[Excerpts] A meeting was held in Dimitrovgrad to mark the completion of the general reconstruction, modernization, and expansion of the Dimitrovgrad Chemical Combine. It was attended by Comrade Grigor Stoichkov; Mincho Yovchev, first secretary of the Khaskovo Oblast BCP Committee; and Georgi Tanev, chairman of the Executive Committee of the Khaskovo Oblast People's Council.

Among the officials attending were Vladimir Lukyanenko, minister of chemical and petroleum machine building of the USSR; Nikolay Olshanskiy, minister of mineral fertilizer production of the USSR; Leonid Grekov and Vaclav Janousek, ambassadors extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Soviet Union and Czechoslovakia to Bulgaria; and (?Hiromisato), minister plenipotentiary of the Japanese Embassy in Bulgaria.

In his speech, Eng Mikhail Zapryanov, chief director of the facility, pointed out that the chemical combine, which has been built with Soviet aid, is now producing 46 products, 17 of which have been patented by the Dimitrovgrad Chemical Combine. Apart from the complex, unique equipment from the Soviet Union, and equipment from Czechoslovakia, Japan, and other countries has been installed at the combine. [passage omitted]

Andrey Bundzhulov, first secretary of the Komsomol Central Committee, unveiled a tablet to commemorate the Komsomol labor invested in this national youth construction project.

Soviet Ambassador Leonid Grekov delivered a greetings message from the Soviet Union.

In opening the new installations, Comrade Grigor Stoichkov congratulated those present on the successful completion of the general reconstruction and modernization on the eve of the national party conference. He offered his best wishes to the Dimitrovgrad chemical workers and said he hoped they will take their place in the forefront of restructuring in all fields of life and will make a worthy contribution to increasing the prosperity of the Bulgarian people.

The officials toured the newly constructed workshops and met with manager-workers responsible for commissioning projected capacities ahead of schedule.

Agreement Signed With U.S. Corporation
AU211345 Sofia RABOTNICHESKO DELO
in Bulgarian 20 Jan 88 p 8

[Text] Petko Danchev, chairman of the Biotechnological and Chemical Industry Association, and Pierre Khouri, president of the U.S. UNIFERT Corporation (European

branch), signed an agreement on long-term cooperation in Sofia yesterday. The document provides for an intensification of mutual contacts in the biotechnological and chemical industry.

Both sides agreed to jointly finance the construction of priority projects in Bulgaria and to engage in industrial production sharing. They also decided to establish joint firms and consortiums, to conduct joint engineering activities, and to exchange information. Real opportunities exist for the prompt implementation of important tasks—such as the construction, development, and management of terminals and warehouses in Bulgarian sea-ports, as well as for cooperation in using new methods of fertilization, irrigation, and selection of seeds in agriculture.

The two sides expressed their desire to increase mutual exchange of goods for the purpose of meeting their own needs and of exports to third countries.

Vatican Delegation Arrives for Talks

AU211423 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech
19 Jan 88 p 2

[Text] Prague (CTK)—Talks between a Czechoslovak Government delegation and a delegation of the Vatican will be held in the CSSR in the coming days. In this connection a delegation of the Vatican headed by special envoy Archbishop Francesco Colasuonno, apostolic nuntius, arrived in Prague on Monday [18 January].

Slovak Catholics Support Appeal

AU201040 Vienna DIE PRESSE in German
20 Jan 88 p 2

[Text] Prague (KATHPRESS)—The collection of signatures for a petition to the CSSR authorities comprising 31 items and demanding an end to state interference in Church affairs and the reestablishment of freedom of religion in the CSSR, which was initiated by Moravian Catholics, is also strongly supported by believers in Slovakia. A delegation of Slovak Catholics have now handed lists with more than 16,000 signatures of believers for this petition to Prague's archbishop, Cardinal Frantisek Tomasek. It seems to be certain that the initiative will become the largest signature campaign for freedom of religion that has ever taken place in the CSSR.

Strougal Interviewed Prior to Kohl Visit

LD211259 Hamburg DPA in German
1050 GMT 21 Jan 88

[Text] Prague (DPA)—The CSSR is expecting a lot, especially economically, from the chancellor's visit to Prague on 26 and 27 January. This has been stated by Czechoslovak Premier Lubomir Strougal (64) in an interview with German journalists. The range of topics would be determined by Chancellor Kohl, Strougal said. He assumed that economic questions and environmental problems would play a major part, and a further opening of the borders would also be discussed. Strougal announced that even prior to the ratification of the U.S.-Soviet treaty eliminating medium-range missiles in Washington and Moscow, the CSSR would eliminate the relevant missiles on its territory.

Regarding the borders, Strougal said in detail that a further opening was no longer a political question. "Earlier, it was one. We are great ideologists, sometimes good ones and sometimes bad ones, but this period has passed." It was now a practical question. "The largest problem exists in the area of foreign currency, for example the exchange requirement." But great progress had certainly been noted in 1 year.

On the question of transborder pollution, particularly of the air, Strougal admitted that there was intense criticism in his country. When he went to areas bordering the FRG or the GDR "our government is intensely criticized. The people demand concrete answers."

The CSSR was clear "what we cause. We are pleased that our West German neighbors speak realistically about their share of the responsibility." The CSSR also knew that environmental technology in the Federal Republic was more highly developed than in Czechoslovakia. Prague did not want this technology free of charge. "We will pay. We are not so indebted that we cannot borrow." Political will was important here. Strougal described it as a problem that "we need not 1 or 2 plants but 10, 20, or 50." He would speak to Kohl about an agreement on cooperation. "We must deal with the environmental problem rapidly," the premier said. There was also the question of water quality of the Elbe and other rivers.

Regarding the details of the Kohl visit, he said he would not avoid any subject the chancellor wanted to discuss. Of course, some things would not be published. "I expect a good deal from the visit in the economic area," Strougal stressed.

Cultural and general humanitarian questions were also likely to be dealt with. "The Federal Republic and the CSSR have historic and neighborly relations. We must get along well with one another," Strougal said.

Regarding efforts toward reform in the CSSR, Strougal denied that Prague "was copying Gorbachev." The CSSR had attempted this several times, the last time in the sixties. But "the political leadership had moved away again" from these reforms in the economic sector. Without describing the suppressed 1968 reform under Alexander Dubcek as "counterrevolution"—as is often done in Prague—Strougal said it had "met certain political barriers." There were similarities between 1968 and today. There now existed "no alternative to the reforms." They "must be continued at an optimum tempo." Sometimes "such changes meet with stereotype political, ideological, and economic resistance."

However, the reform had support. "This small Central European country must have intensive contacts with the world. This country has democratic traditions; we should link up with progressive traditions." Strougal described as the greatest failure of his political life "that the reform was not started earlier."

The fact that "the reforms were essential was now our chance."

CTK Reports Interview

LD211932 Prague CTK in English
1808 GMT 21 Jan 88

[Text] Prague Jan 21 (CTK)—Great significance is attached in Czechoslovakia to the January 26-27 visit of West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl which will be another important step to the further development of Czechoslovak-West German relations. Czechoslovak Premier Lubomir Strougal has said in an interview with West German journalists.

Speaking to correspondents of the West German television channel ARD, the news agency DPA and the papers FRANKFURTER RUNDSCHAU and FRANKENPOST, Lubomir Strougal recalled that the changes which have taken place in the world and Czechoslovak-West German relations since the previous visit of the West German chancellor to Czechoslovakia in 1973 and the Czechoslovak president to the FRG in 1978 have provided new possibilities in political, economic, cultural, and other cooperation.

West Germany is Czechoslovakia's largest economic partner among Western States. Their financial and commercial relations are developing well, but higher forms of cooperation should be asserted. Czechoslovakia is ready to do so and if West German firms show interest it could join promising programs very quickly and efficiently. This applies to bilateral cooperation as well as to cooperation on third markets, the premier said.

Lubomir Strougal went on to stress the great importance attached by Czechoslovakia to cooperation in the sphere of the living environment. He invited West German enterprises to cooperate in the production and installation of equipment designed to remove sulphur dioxide and other harmful emissions and prevent water pollution.

Czechoslovakia and the FRG should seek together the quickest possible technical and technological solution of ecological questions to the benefit of both countries. On its part, Czechoslovakia is determined to spend much on environmental protection.

In another part of the interview, Lubomir Strougal said that the current reform in Czechoslovakia, based on local conditions and experience of the Soviet Union and other socialist countries, is to replace the model of central administration of national economy with an economic model and to rationalize economic processes. The democratization of society must continue hand in hand with the economic reform. The people must be full participants in events in their country, as success of the restructuring is guaranteed by political will and better use of the initiative and creative capabilities of workers.

Answering questions about international issues, the Czechoslovak premier told the West German journalists that he did not expect any fundamental controversies during his talks with Chancellor Helmut Kohl, although their stand on some questions would differ.

All problems must be discussed frankly. West Germany and Czechoslovakia are neighbours and must be on good terms with each other, Lubomir Strougal said.

Asked about relations between the Czechoslovak state and the Catholic Church, the federal premier said that officials of the relevant Czechoslovak bodies are now holding talks with a delegation of the Vatican and

representatives of the Catholic Church in Czechoslovakia on questions related to the filling of vacant bishoprics. He voiced the conviction that agreement will be reached provided both sides show tolerance, respect each other's stands and strive for rational compromises.

Lubomir Strougal spoke in favour of simplifying the issue of visas between the FRG and Czechoslovakia to put the practice in harmony with efforts to create good neighbourly relations.

Spanish PCPE Delegation Ends Visit, Departs
AU211422 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech
19 Jan 88 p 2

[CTK report in the "International Relations" column]

[Text] A study delegation of the Communist Party of the Peoples of Spain headed by Jose Serradell, member of the Executive Committee and Secretariat and Central Committee secretary, left Prague for home on Monday [18 January]. During its stay it acquainted itself with experience from the political-organizational work and from intraparty life in the Prague and West Slovak regional organizations.

National Front Endorses Jakes-Gorbachev Talks
LD201858 Prague Domestic Service in Czech
1700 GMT 20 Jan 88

[Text] At its session today, the Presidium of the National Front Central Committee adopted with satisfaction the results of the talks between Milos Jakes, general secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee, and Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee. It stressed its determination to take part in further developing friendship and cooperation between Czechoslovakia and the USSR; in the basic transformation of the economic mechanism; in developing socialist democracy in the interest of increasing the attractiveness of socialism, security, and the prospects of the people in the interest of peace and social progress in the world.

The presidium then discussed a draft report on the directions of further development of the National committees following the 17th Congress of the party. It confirmed the inevitability of further improving the quality of their work and the all-round development of their social tasks as organs of the people's power and state administration, as one of the significant forms of popular socialist self-government. The presidium went on to recommend to the central committees of the National Fronts of the Czech Socialist Republic and the Slovak Socialist Republic that they hold a joint session on 3 February to discuss the tasks of the National Front in deepening socialist democracy and speeding up the economic and social development of the society. It also assessed the situation of the organizational and content preparation for such a session.

Jakes Addresses N. Moravian Party Meeting
LD202047 Prague Television Service in Czech
1830 GMT 20 Jan 88

[Excerpts] [Announcer] A working conference of officials of the party bodies and organizations, economic managers, senior employees, leading work collectives, and National Front officials of the North Moravian region was held today in Novy Jicin. It was attended by Comrade Milos Jakes, general secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee. [passage omitted]

The discussion included a contribution by Comrade Milos Jakes. He began by commending the work of the north Moravian party organization, particularly the results which allowed the collectives today to take specific steps on the road of restructuring the economic mechanism. He also stressed the need to end the losses to the economy by applying personal responsibility and strengthening discipline and order at work. Going on to speak about the essence and purpose of the current tasks, Comrade Jakes had this to say:

[Begin Jakes recording] The main purpose here is for every enterprise to use economic incentives and to consistently apply economic accountability and self-financing—to prepare itself for this. That is the main purpose, and I think this is the main purpose not only of the enterprises taking part in the experiment, but of all enterprises. In other words, they have to think, they have to think how they will have to work in the new conditions and begin to work accordingly, and not wait until the day comes when the new conditions take them by surprise. In short, they are going to have to tackle a series of difficult problems.

What does this mean? It means that we have a struggle even now to ensure that we make better use of all the production facilities, that we go over right now to economic accountability, regardless of whether or not we are involved in the experiment, and to self-financing, and promote economic accountability at the workplace. It means that we have to think about what our future will be, what we are going to invest in, that we put the norms in order—output norms, material norms, technical norms that we have in our factories. We have to think about what we are going to innovate, so that we stand up to world competition and satisfy the demands of the market. We have to think about how we can organize our work better, both in the production workplaces and preproduction workplaces, how to modernize, how to update technology, how to make better use of progress in science and technology and also how to take steps to ensure that discipline and order are improved, because without discipline and order economic incentives will not be of any use to anyone, not even in management. This is the decisive condition and above all the decisive condition in the stage of scientific and technical development.

Of course it is also necessary to think of ways of dealing with weak cadre positions, of training people for these places. That is important. Also important is socialist economic integration, developing direct contacts, because it is not only the state which enters today's market, but specific enterprises, especially from the socialist countries. Therefore, we have to show initiative. Yes, the central authorities are trying to clear away all the obstacles and barriers which hamper this, but we must realize what the main point of these direct contacts is. It is nothing other than cooperation and specialization, and cooperation in particular. So it is not just a matter of making visits, it is not just a matter of talking to one another, visiting one another's plants and saying "I do it like this and you do it like that" and calling that direct contacts! No! Let's say we're making some kind of machine, well I'll make this bit and you make that bit, and then we'll put it together. That is the way to do it! That is direct contacts! Often no one looks at it from a wider angle. Let's just produce, that is what interests me, and what the effect on the economy as a whole is going to be—that is something which is not paid enough attention.

What is involved is not only restructuring of the economic instruments, but truly, it is also restructuring of attitudes, restructuring of the people's way of thinking. They should be aware of the mutual connections, inasmuch as an action of one factory does not create the people's standard of living; it is the entire functioning of the national economy that creates simply the conditions for a decent life. We must be aware of that. We pay higher wages than envisaged by the plan—that is we pay higher wages for a smaller volume of production. That is not very good either. The more so that we must follow the balance between wages and the market. What is the point of having money if I cannot buy what I need with it?

To what extent is the initiative of the people to earn being exerted? The extent is very small. What do we need then? We need, I should say, a rich, structured market according to the needs of the people and according to their earnings; that is if someone earns a lot of money he or she should get high-quality goods. Even those who earn little, as long as they are willing to pay for the goods and are not satisfied with mediocre standard, should get high quality goods. That is, it is also at this point that we should adhere to the relation: productivity of labor and wages. [end recording]

[Announcer] Among further significant reserves of our economy, Comrade Jakes also stated shortcomings in the investment construction. The fact that there is chain reaction between economy and investments, there is a shortage of concrete products, there is need for unplanned imports. One has to seek causes in the developmental concepts of investors, in responsible preparation. After that, Comrade Jakes continued:

[Begin Jakes recording] A few words about the year 1988: It is important that people be aware of the tasks and problems. It has been stressed here correctly. What kind of a year is it? If I speak about it from the central point of view, it is a year of the struggle for stability, struggle for internal, as well as external balance. It is, in fact, creation of a new, springboard base, so that in the coming years, we might progress faster. We must balance what so far has not been evened out, we must do away with the disproportions, we must create a good starting platform, so that the national income might then grow faster than it will grow this year. The balance, both internal and external, strengthening the stability—that is the basis of efficiency. We must endeavor to proceed in an ordered and coordinated manner in all matters of the national economy. That is the philosophy of the year 1988. [end recording]

[Announcer] In the following discussion, the participants in the aktiv fully supported the conclusions of the 7th session of the Party's Central Committee, and at the same time, they openly pointed to the lasting shortcomings in introducing intensive development of the national economy in the North Moravian region. The discussion also pointed to the reserves in the work of the regional party organization. During the party aktiv, Comrade Milos Jakes received a significant document from the working people of Paskov Cellulose Works: The program of the development of the North Moravian cellulose works at Paskov up to year 2000. This much from Novy Jicin.

Lenart Delivers CPSL Presidium Report 15 Jan
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[Report of the CPSL Central Committee Presidium: "For the Consistent Implementation of the Line of the 17th CPCZ Congress and the Resolution of the CPSL Congress in the Spirit of the Resolution of the Seventh Session of the CPCZ Central Committee," delivered by Jozef Lenart, first secretary of the CPSL Central Committee, at a meeting of the CPSL Central Committee in Bratislava on 14 January]

Esteemed Comrades: The task of today's session of the CPSL Central Committee is to itemize, on the basis of an exacting and critical examination of the implementation of the line of the 17th CPCZ Congress, of the Resolution of the CPSL Congress, and of the resolutions of the subsequent sessions of the CPCZ Central Committee and the CPSL Central Committee, the decisions of the seventh session of the CPCZ Central Committee for the conditions of party work in Slovakia. Considering our specific conditions and the results achieved, this session is to map out the course of action to be taken by CPSL agencies and organizations with a view to consistently securing the main tasks of the party and society as they are contained in the report of the CPCZ Central Committee Presidium delivered at the seventh session of the CPCZ Central Committee and in its resolutions.

Our session, whose significance is accentuated by the presence of Comrade Milos Jakes, general secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee, should assess with critical openness the objective results of our efforts, both the positive features and the shortcomings. It will assess how successful Slovakia has been in achieving a turnabout in the intensification of the economy by making use of scientific-technical progress, improving the forms and methods of management, more effectively stimulating good quality work, and activating the human factor. We are convinced that the results of Comrade Milos Jakes' working visit to the Soviet Union and his talks with Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, will provide a further impetus toward deepening our ties in this exceptionally important period, toward accelerating the economic and social development of our society.

By their attitudes and efforts, the Communists and working people of Slovakia furnish evidence of their active support for the resolutions of the seventh session of the CPCZ Central Committee. The exceptional importance of that session lies in the comprehensive approach toward restructuring all spheres of society's life; it will have a marked impact on the present and long-term development. We are voicing great appreciation at the fact that the cohesive program of restructuring is being devised with the help of Marxist-Leninist theory, enriched by the latest theoretical conclusions drawn by the CPSU, and that experiences from the practical activity of the CPCZ and the fraternal parties, notably the inspiring experiences of the CPSU, have been applied in the process. We consider important the fact that the report of the CPCZ Central Committee Presidium, which was delivered at the seventh session of the CPCZ Central Committee by Comrade Milos Jakes, uses as its points of departure the historical experiences of the CPCZ and the attained results of our work, and that it expresses our specific conditions. The resolutions approved by the Central Committee, which we consider to be the most important party documents since the 17th CPCZ Congress, lay down the paths of working out and developing the congress line through the comprehensive restructuring of the economic mechanism and the deepening of socialist democracy. They significantly contribute to deepening the working people's trust in Party policy and give a boost to their initiative in securing the further upswing of the socialist society. This establishes conditions for a creative atmosphere and for successfully overcoming existing problems. It is precisely in the present stage, in which the practical implementation of the program of restructuring will be linked with the struggle for its fulfillment, that we ascribe special importance to this circumstance, which confirms the CPCZ's firm bonds with the working people.

We Have Achieved a Number of Positive Results [sub-head]

Esteemed Comrades: We can state that during the past 2 years of the Eighth 5-Year Plan we achieved a number of positive results in the economy in Slovakia. Thanks to

the endeavor and selflessness of the majority of the working people during the year, we managed to eliminate shortfalls in plan fulfillment—which came about, in particular, as a result of adverse weather conditions, especially in the building sector—and on the whole to come to terms with set tasks.

We appreciate, in particular, the fact that many labor collectives and management workers managed to cope with the growing exactingness of tasks. With initiative they sought and found ways of raising the economic performance and improving the way in which the needs of the national economy and the population were satisfied. This was the case in a number of organizations in the engineering, chemical industry, construction, agriculture, and food industry sectors. This made it possible to reach, on aggregate, the set targets in terms of private and public consumption growth and to implement several measures in the sphere of social policy. The incomes of the population and the purchasing power of our citizens further increased.

We value positively the fact that during the past period consumer deliveries were Kcs2 to Kcs3 billion higher than planned. Also thanks to this, supplies of food products to our domestic market were better than in previous years and some new types of industrial merchandise appeared on the market. When we assess developments on the domestic market in this way it does not mean that we are not aware of a number of problems that make the life of our citizens unpleasant and are the target of criticism.

Shortcomings in the range and quality of industrial products persist and are getting worse, given the growing purchasing power. This was also markedly manifested at last year's pre-Christmas market where sought-after goods were missing, such as winter clothing, children's and ladies' footwear, freezers and refrigerators, color television sets, and other products, especially products of the electrical engineering and general engineering industries.

Considerable problems exist in ensuring the quality, range, and ready availability of services purchased by the population, which bears out the fact that national committees, production cooperatives, and state enterprises do not adequately respond to the needs of the population and do not meet tasks arising from the 17th CPCZ Congress and the CPSL congress.

Problems on the domestic market and in services affect all strata of the population and are an exceptionally important factor in the process of the formation of public attitudes. Production and retailing organizations as well as service enterprises must fully realize this fact, draw conclusions from it, and, acting in the spirit of restructuring, assess their results according to how requirements are met.

The use of the output on the domestic market, but also in industrial production branches, in capital investment, and in foreign trade, was influenced by the lower-than-planned creation of national income, which increased last year somewhat more than 3 percent, compared with a planned growth rate of 4.5 percent, and a 1986 growth rate of 4.4 percent. This state of affairs was caused by the slow and ineffective progress in intensifying the national economy last year. The investment construction plan is not being fulfilled. Some progress was achieved in implementing some industrial and ecology projects and in the construction of social and medical establishments. However, chiefly because of the inadequate structure of deliveries, capital investment insufficiently tackles the necessary modernization and reequipment of the production-technical base, especially in the consumer goods, food, and chemical industries, as well as in some branches of the engineering and electrical engineering industries. We still have not managed to come to terms with the situation at some industrial building projects, where the generation of resources is dependent on their completion.

In 1986 only 10 out of 18 planned key capacities were handed over for trial operation and last year, according to preliminary results, this applied to only 9 out of 14 such capacities. Relatively serious delays occurred at the following projects: production of aluminum oxide in Ziar nad Hronom, the cast iron melting plant in Hronec, the mechanical assembly plant in MEZ Michalovce, reconstruction of the Trebisov sugar refinery, production of trucks in the Bratislava Automobile Works, and others.

This is compounded by the fact that in many cases planned technical and economic specifications are not reached. This is the case, in particular, of the Vranov furniture plant, the Zarnovica plywood plant, Drevo-kombinat Pezinok, and others. This is also one of the reasons why we did not achieve the planned rise in the creation of national income in the first 2 years [of the Eighth 5-Year Plan].

Supplies for foreign trade represent an important area of the utilization of the end product. On the whole, we fulfilled them in Slovakia in the past 2 years. However, we failed to meet the efficiency targets. We cannot avoid changing this situation.

A grievous cause of our failure to reach the planned growth rate of national income is the slow pace at which we are reducing total costs. The timber-processing and light industries, the agriculture-food industry complex, and producers of construction materials, in particular, did not succeed in reducing cost-intensiveness.

As a result, the efficiency and profitability of production are not increasing at the required pace. Approved consolidation programs have not yielded the expected

results thus far. Although the number of organizations in Slovakia that are operating at a loss declined, their number continues to be high.

Current Tasks Test Communists' Preparedness [sub-head]

Esteemed Comrades: More than ever before, the current tasks test the preparedness of Communists, labor collectives, and individuals, notably management workers, to think and act in a new way, and their ability to display activity and commitment in asserting progress in practice. Comrades from ZTS [Heavy Engineering Works] Martin, VSZ [East Slovak Iron Works] Kosice, Chemosvit Svit, Slovnaft Bratislava, Vahostav Zilina, and Doprastav and Hydrostav Bratislava economic production units, grain and corn growers in Dunajska Streda district, and others who consistently ensured last year's tasks, realizing that the path toward intensive development and more effective results leads via the quality of all work and the use of the results of scientific-technical progress, deserve praise.

We are of the opinion that there are no grounds for pessimism. But knowledge of the true state of affairs must prompt us to speed up the search for ways out, leading to the successful implementation of this year's tasks.

Members and candidate members of the CPSL Central Committee have received background material delineating the basic characteristics of the state implementation plan. Allow me thus to direct attention to some questions requiring special care.

The 1988 plan outlines the attainment of a 4.5-percent rise in national income in Slovakia, which means an increment of about Kcs8 billion. This is certainly a demanding task, which has a direct impact on the further enhancement and improvement of standards of living. This requires a substantial rise in the level of the maximalization of resources. In the interest of the achievement of this target, a substantial improvement in the quality of production and individual products must be at the center of our attention. The CPCZ Central Committee reemphasized [at its December session] that a turnabout in this area is inevitable. Life itself calls for this. It will determine our advancement and the outcome of our competition with the world. That is why we demand of the entire economic sphere, of all executive management workers, that they vigorously assert this urgent task.

Checks carried out by the People's Control Committee of the Slovak SR in Drevina Turany, the Central Slovak Meat Processing Plant in Zvolen, in the Bratislava Mills and Bakeries, Levitex Levice, in Surface Construction Bratislava, and other organizations confirmed that the

overwhelming majority of substandard quality production is linked to subjective causes—to noncompliance with norms, technological processes, and work procedures, to inertia, lack of discipline, and disorder at the places of work.

Another cause of the low quality of production also lies in the frequent disruptions in supplier-user relations and a lack of reliability in relations between manufacturers in meeting mutual obligations. This applies not just to relations between sectors, but also to relations within sectors and economic production units. Shortcomings of this type greatly reduce the quality of production on the part of consumer manufacturers in the furniture industry, the printing industry, in the Tesla plant in Oravica-Nizna, and elsewhere.

At the same time we know that at places where systematic attention is paid to quality, good results are achieved. Apart from other places, this is the case in ZTS [Heavy Engineering Plant] Komarno, Chemko Strazske, and in the Tatrasvit plant in Svit, which demonstrate a consistent and purposeful approach to the use of science and technology, to the observance of work and technological discipline, and to the work with cadres. It is desirable to use and consistently apply their experience in other enterprises as well.

The urgency of such a course of action also arises from the fact that the 1988 plan puts higher demands on the growth of products rated as having high technical-economic standards. The 18.6 percent share of these products in the total production volume achieved last year and the planned almost 20-percent proportion planned for this year are still a considerable distance from the target set by the CPSL Congress, which was 25 percent.

That is why we demand from the ministries, economic production units, enterprises, research institutes, organizations of the Revolutionary Trade Union Movement, Socialist Youth Union, Czechoslovak Scientific-Technical Society, and others that they exert greater efforts toward meeting that target.

It is the duty of party agencies and organizations to see to the successful fulfillment of quality-related tasks by raising the effectiveness of their political-organizational and supervisory work.

As was said at the CPSL congress, "we must more purposefully and vigorously support the development of those branches and production programs that are linked with the maximalization of creative work, the results of science, and people's ingenuity, and that yield the greatest possible socioeconomic effect." In accordance with this task, it is essential to focus attention on adding maximum value to domestic and imported raw materials. Proceeding from the requirements of the comprehensive processing of raw timber, it is necessary to prepare and implement the construction of a new paper mill. The

government and the relevant interdepartmental and sectoral agencies of the Slovak SR in cooperation with federal agencies must complete the timely implementation of this project.

We are facing pressing tasks in the more efficient maximization of agricultural produce. This calls for greater consistency in taking the path of accelerated modernization and more intensive use of processing capacities throughout the agriculture-food industry complex.

As for imported raw materials, we must more markedly raise the standard of the use of crude oil, above all by completing, in due time and with good quality, the construction of equipment for cracking heavy-oil distillates [in the Bratislava Slovnaft plant].

That is why it is urgent to remove shortcomings connected with delays in the supply of technology, which did not make it possible to make use of the favorable conditions for starting production ahead of schedule that were created by the suppliers of building work. We are confident that the supplier of technology, which is Czechoslovak engineering, will demonstrate its professional pride by the quality of its deliveries. We expect the Ministry of Industry of the Slovak SR to continue to provide assistance in mastering this important project and we expect the Slovnaft economic production unit to train a qualified workforce for operating it.

To raise the technical-economic standards of production, speed up innovation cycles, improve product quality and competitiveness, and add greater value to products, we must make fuller use of, above all, scientific-technical development as the crucial factor of intensification. This is also a demand raised by the restructuring of the economic mechanism.

Considerable sums are being appropriated for the sphere of science and technology, also in 1988. It is essential to use them efficiently for the further development of production programs that will help to considerably increase contributions and effects in the reproduction process. Yet there are still many projects in scientific-research and development organizations from which practice has no or a minimal effect. We repeat that a change can be brought about only through the demanding and stimulating influence of the economic mechanism in the activity of these organizations, above all, through the application of economic accountability. The establishment of prototype workshops, experimental operations, and scientific-production units, as well as the consistent enforcement of other progressive forms are the prerequisites of a more profound materialization of science in production.

With regard to some production enterprises, we must critically say that they do not demonstrate sufficient interest in a fuller use of the advances of science in production. I cannot fail to mention, for example, the SM 52-12 and PP-06 computers developed by our

researchers, whose specifications are comparable with the world standard but which continue to be in short supply because of production problems. The same is true of the ionic implanter.

As a result we fail to create the necessary conditions for a more rapid computerization of production and technological processes, which has an impact on the progressiveness of the technical-economic specifications of our production, notably in general and electrical engineering.

The solution of the aforementioned shortcomings requires an advance in the production of electronic components and higher-density integration circuits. Naturally, this cannot be accomplished without expanding the production capacities for integration circuits of great complexity in the Tesla plant in Piestany. In the interest of meeting the start-up deadline, it is necessary to deal more energetically with existing problems in the preparation of the project, in the building capacities of the supply organizations building capacities, and in the provision of technological equipment, and to use non-traditional methods of solution.

Great scope for the efficient use of the ingenuity of our researchers, engineers, technicians, and scientific-research and development institutions is provided by the production of testing and measuring equipment and unique appliances. To improve the quality of components and end products, it is necessary to expeditiously establish conditions for the development and production of testing equipment in the Computer Technology Research Institute in Zilina, the Computer Technology Plant in Banska Bystrica, and other research institutes, production enterprises, and at the workplaces of higher educational establishments.

The fulfillment of our targets in the area of computerization hinges on the rapid development of the production of pure silicon. Its consumption in Czechoslovakia is expected to rise several-fold in a relatively short time. The consumption of this strategic material in other CEMA countries shows a similar trend. It is thus appropriate to direct joint steps toward ensuring its production in cooperation with the USSR. We consider it essential that the relevant state agencies resolve the method of covering our needs for this material as soon as possible.

The CPSL Congress stressed the importance of small-volume chemistry for structural changes and for increasing efficiency in chemical production. We voice appreciation for the fact that the Duslo plant in Sala has mastered the production of antioxidant CD and reached the planned technical-economic specifications. However, these are but the first steps. That is why we cannot avoid reinforcing and improving the quality of research in this field and make headway in the construction of the pertinent production capacities, such as the complex of accelerators and the like. Special support must be given

to the establishment of a chemical center in Bratislava as part of the Chemical Technology Research Institute to deal, above all, with new, more effective pesticides, herbicides, and other agrochemicals, including regulators of plant growth. In assessing the implementation of projects in small-volume chemical production, it is necessary that the relevant levels of management respect its specific features and not to allow priorities, time, and markets to be lost just because of an inflexible and insufficiently demanding approach to the appropriate decisions.

At the same time, it is an irreplaceable task of the chemical industry to improve the structure and quality, and to react to new demands in the production of synthetic fibers, plastics, rubber products, agrochemicals, wrappings, and products for the electrotechnical and automotive industries. The task in pharmacy is to develop the production of pharmaceuticals such as cephalosporin antibiotics that can be used in curing infectious diseases. It is essential to expand the production of vitamins A, C, and E and to speed up work on the pharmaceutical research and development of cytostatics and essential amino acids.

As has been stressed by the CPCZ Central Committee, our scientific-research base cannot be regarded as the sole source of scientific-technical development, but it is necessary to tap the entire creative potential of the national economy, including such sources as greater imports of efficient technology, acquisition of new findings, purchase of licenses, use of returnable foreign exchange credits, but, above all, a greater and improved involvement in the international division of labor. We have great untapped possibilities in this respect.

We are convinced that we will not hold our own without a far more consistent implementation of tasks arising from bilateral and multilateral agreements with CEMA member states. In particular, we will see to it that the intentions and tasks arising from talks between the highest representatives of the Czechoslovak and Soviet Communist Parties are applied in practice as soon as possible and that further progress is made in moving away from commercial forms of cooperation toward deeper production sharing and specialization agreements on the basis of direct links between enterprises and organizations.

The Robot International Scientific-Production Association in Presov provides an example of such cooperation. But even here it is desirable to advance further, from a joint design office toward a company supplying comprehensive automated systems for factories in our country and in the USSR. Such an approach enjoys the full support of the Central Committee of our party. However, we ask other organizations, such as the Research Institute of Mechanization and Automation in Nove Mesto nad Vahom, the Computer Technology Research

Institute in Zilina, and research institutes in Bratislava, that they, too, help in more effectively finalizing rational, comprehensive forms of cooperation.

We in Slovakia, in particular, must call for the broadest possible international economic and scientific-technical cooperation with the CEMA member states, notably with the USSR. There are a number of proposals and ideas for expanding mutual relations even with individual Soviet Union republics. The Slovak Commission of Scientific-Technical and Investment Development and the State Committee for Science and Technology of the Georgian SSR have signed an agreement on cooperation in the area of welding equipment, hydroelectric power equipment, and electronics technology. The approved decisions must now be applied consistently and in due fashion. In applying them, we must not proceed just from the position of our interests, but must see and respect our partners' interests, too. This means that we should know in time with whom cooperation ties should be established, what to expect of them, and, conversely, what we ourselves are able to offer for this cooperation to be mutually beneficial in all respects.

The present period raises the need to develop scientific-technical and economic relations with nonsocialist countries on a broader basis. Here, too, it is necessary to proceed in a novel fashion.

Evidence of this is also furnished by the establishment of the joint AVEX Enterprise by Tesla Bratislava and the Philips Company. We should use the advantages of such cooperation especially in the production of consumer goods, in engineering, electronics, and the food industry. These qualitatively new forms of relations require, in the field of the economic and legal mechanism, the resolution with final validity some systemic questions.

Further possibilities are in the offing for Czechoslovak economy's involvement in European regional projects, which should contribute to the solution of technical problems in the most sophisticated areas of the economy. These and many other forms conform with the spirit of new thinking in international political cooperation and reinforce peace and trust among nations and between states with different social systems. The development of these processes cannot be just the concern of enterprises and organizations, but they must be guided and channeled, above all by the central agencies.

If we are to make more marked progress in intensification, we must make progress in realizing the planned capital investment projects. Particular attention must be devoted to such major construction projects as the nuclear power station at Mochovce, the Gabčíkovo-Nagymaros hydroelectric power project, the production of nonferrous alloys at Hacava, and the modernization of aluminum production in the Slovak National Uprising Works in Ziar nad Hronom.

As far as Mochovce is concerned, this year the subcontractors must unconditionally honor their commitments with regard to technology deliveries and ensure sufficient manpower figures in the requisite professions. The aim is to meet the targets with regard to the high quality of building and assembly jobs and, as far as safe operation is concerned, to prepare the demanding fully-automated control system together with Soviet experts.

Despite some progress in the construction of the Gabčíkovo-Nagymaros hydroelectric power project achieved by those who provide jobs in building, especially the Hydrostav and Vahostav organizations, it is essential to continue to establish conditions not only for a continuous course of construction but for speeding it up. Increased attention must be devoted to synchronizing the course of construction with the Hungarian side so that this important national economic project is completed on schedule.

A very urgent task is to speed up the construction of projects supplying drinking water to the population. An outright emergency [havarijní] situation has arisen lately in this regard in a number of localities in Slovakia, particularly in the East Slovak region and, more specifically, in Kosice where serious disruptions of the water supply have occurred in recent years because of the disregard for and underestimation of the city's comprehensive development. That is why it is necessary to speed up as much as possible the connection of the Presov-Kosice region to the Starina water main network. These cases must be a lesson for us. For this reason we call on the Ministry of Forestry and Water Management to handle supplies of water in all areas of the Slovak SR more consistently and with a greater sense of purpose, in cooperation with national committees.

The CPSL congress mapped out exacting tasks in comprehensive housing construction, in particular in the Slovak capital of Bratislava. We cannot, however, be satisfied with the development of housing construction so far because the well-known problems linger on. That is why we remind national committees, enterprises and organizations under the Ministry of Construction, and designers of their duty to cope with shortcomings more energetically and with greater flexibility in the selection of localities and in the territorial planning and design preparation of apartments of and concomitant investment projects. The reason we stress this is that the tasks in the second half of the current 5-year plan will be more demanding.

The Resolution of the Seventh Session of the CPCZ Central Committee on the Comprehensive Restructuring of the Economic Mechanism emphasizes that investors and subcontractors must be provided with effective incentives to cut construction deadlines, attain advanced technical-economic specifications, and make capital investment itself more cost-efficient. As far back as the December 1986 session of the CPSL Central Committee,

we directed attention to the use of Belorussian experiences, which would help us to deal with persisting problems more effectively. However, the existing opportunities in this field have not been used thus far. The time has come for the Ministry of Construction of the Slovak SR and the central agencies that supervise investors to take up the systemic application of these experiences. This requires that party organizations spearhead these efforts and comprehensively assist in the solution of emerging problems and develop initiative in the labor collectives in the set direction.

We regard as fulfillment of tasks in the agriculture-food industry complex as important. The area [plosne] application of crop-growing systems must become an important factor of their fulfillment, which requires the creation of material-technical and organizational prerequisites. The issue facing us in livestock production is to achieve a higher standard of overall care for farm animals to increase the yields by improving the quality of zoological-veterinary and breeding work, as well as by greater discipline and order at the workplaces themselves.

For the overall growth of the effectiveness of agricultural and food production, it is necessary that the supplying sectors produce and deliver to the producers of agricultural commodities and to the food industry products with new, qualitatively higher properties and specifications, as well as new packaging materials and chemicals.

In ensuring modern nutrition, the requirement of its structure and quality is coming to the forefront. This places great demands on both primary agricultural production and the food industry. It is precisely here that we will have to achieve a turn in the effectiveness of production. This is a complex problem, based on a more effective use of raw materials, a better use of capacities, and the overall modernization of the production process. The application of biotechnologies, where demanding programs have been adopted, must be at the center of attention. Forces and resources must be concentrated more on the completion of projects at Dolná Krupa (production of enzymes for the food and feed industries), Trebisov (production of pure yeast protein for human consumption), and Leopoldov (production of an enzyme that is to be used in the fat and tanning industries).

Achieving Progress in Satisfying Citizens' Needs [sub-head]

Esteemed Comrades: The purpose of our activity and efforts in production is to achieve progress in satisfying the needs of our citizens. This is closely connected with motivating people's activity in the production and non-production spheres. This year we foresee a further growth in the people's income, which must be covered with sufficient commodity assets with the required range and quality. That is why it is the duty of the production sector to respond with greater responsibility and more flexibly to the requirements of retailing organizations.

On the other hand, we demand that the Ministry of Trade of the Slovak SR and the retailing organizations, that they completely resolve supplies to the market and that they expand reciprocal exchanges with foreign retailing organizations with a view to greater variety on the market.

One of the key prerequisites for the fulfillment of tasks is the consistent solution of issues in supplier-consumer relations. The state of provisions for plan fulfillment in many sectors reaffirms that supplier-consumer relations continue to run up against a number of problems that are of long standing.

Many organizations have not concluded economic contracts among themselves. A decisive stop must be put to this state of affairs at all levels. A decisive end must also be put to situations in which confirmed contracts are not being honored, which disrupts the continuity of production and undermines the necessary trust between organizations. These shortcomings are manifesting themselves with increasing frequency in the growth of excess stocks, in which considerable values are immobilized. Under a government decision, excess stocks will gradually be activated in the reproduction process.

We will be able to improve the way in which we meet the demands of domestic consumers and also of foreign customers when we consistently link the dynamism of growth with the renewal and modernization of the production base. Its obsolescence in many sectors accounts for growing costs and the failure to obtain the requisite effects. In other words, we are not concerned just with quantitative production growth but, first and foremost, with its cost-efficiency.

That is why it is essential that at each workplace we make a serious analysis of the current state of affairs and adopt measures to achieve the set targets, so that as little as possible in the way of open problems is left with regard to the fulfillment of this year's plan.

An atmosphere must be created in every party organizations, in which the tasks of the Eighth 5-Year Plan are not questioned. CPSL all-enterprise and plant committees must spur on labor collectives for their consistent fulfillment, especially in the area of quality. They must require that the labor collectives become more demanding and critical and that they show a healthy dose of dissatisfaction with the actual state of affairs.

Ranking economic and managerial personnel must devote far greater attention to the control activity in the production process and see to it that statements on economic performance are correct and that contractual and labor discipline are strictly observed. We want to achieve far better order at building sites, in production, in the warehouses, and in the entire process of circulation. We must improve the quality of political-organizational and ideological activity at all levels of party work in this spirit.

Esteemed Comrades: Proceeding from the party's programmatic line, at the CPSL congress we emphasized the need to grasp and implement in practice a new view of the sphere of social development and social policy, which is an important factor of accelerating intensification and an expression of the humanitarian nature of our system. In the spirit of the Resolution of the 17th CPCZ Congress, we implemented steps for the benefit of families with children and for newlyweds, which affect 350,000 young families in Slovakia and which mean additional annual outlays of roughly Kcs186 million. Our public has been informed that the CPCZ Central Committee Presidium and the CSSR Government approved the draft principles of a social security bill; these principles peg pensions to work merits to a greater extent and they also provide for a certain equalization in the level of pensions already being paid. The income of the population in Slovakia from social payments will thus increase by Kcs2.9 billion in 1990. This adjustment, too, stimulates and commits us to consistently meet the set targets with regard to the growth of national income. We in the Slovak SR regard these issues as all the more urgent, as we must also deal more energetically with such problems as the accelerated construction of homes for the retired, institutions for the chronically ill, establishments for citizens and children with impaired health, and children's homes, which is our duty toward our fellow citizens. Although the situation has improved in recent years, in this area we lag behind the needs and the national standard. We must also make more vigorous headway in the implementation of the comprehensive program of care for disabled citizens.

With the awareness that man and his well-being are the *raison d'être* of all our efforts and his health is an irreplaceable value, the party is devoting and must devote ever greater attention to this entire sphere, starting with the working and living environment, via modern nutrition, up to actual health care; the technical base of health care is expanding; the pressing situation in Bratislava will be alleviated by the completion of the children's university hospital, by completing construction of the hospital in Bratislava-Petrzalka; the start of construction of the university hospital, and the construction of an oncology institute, which is on the drawing board. The regional and district network of hospitals and medical establishments is being completed. The truth is, however, that we must still purposefully complete and modernize their medical equipment, which, along with the sensitive attitude of medical personnel [to patients], can and must raise the overall standard of health care. A more marked contribution to the provision of modern medical technology and medication must be made by our producers in the Chirana, Tesla, and Spofa enterprises. To this end, they must deepen their ties with medical schools, research, and health care practice, seek inspiration in their suggestions and ideas, and look for ways of establishing such efficient organizational forms as scientific-production associations, joint workplaces, and research teams, not only within the national framework, but also on an international scale. As in our life in

general, so in health care, too, where this issue is particularly sensitive, we must raise quality and, taking this requirement into consideration, improve management and apply effective forms of material and moral incentives.

The party and state agencies' constant attention and the general public's interest focus on the enhancement and protection of the environment. In the spirit of the Resolution of the 17th CPCZ Congress and the Resolution of the CPSL Congress, concepts have been adopted at the national and republican levels.

In the past years, we have made progress in improving the purity of the atmosphere in the Orava and Jelsava regions and in Bratislava. Effluent treatment plants have been built in the Slovnaft and Georgi Dimitrov plants, and city sewerage treatment plants have been built in Bratislava and elsewhere.

More than Kcs6 billion have been appropriated for the solution of ecological problems in the Slovak SR in the current 5-year plan. But what is the situation with regard to the implementation of the program of ecology investments? In the first 2 years of the Eighth 5-Year Plan Kcs518 million remained unused, numerous planned projects are being put off, and there is a danger that out of the resources allocated for the Eighth 5-Year Plan, Kcs700 million will not be used. Because of lack of investors', designers', or suppliers' preparedness, the construction of effluent treatment plants in Drevina Turany, Plastika Nitra, the Sereď plant of the West Slovak Meat Industry, and in Presov-Sekcov did not even start. This also holds true for a number of smaller sewage treatment plants that should have been built within the framework of the Z-project [community self-improvement program]. The unused funds must be used for other, prepared ecology projects or to ensure suppliers' capacities for the fulfillment of the ecology program in the subsequent years, which will be far more demanding. To achieve the set target of eliminating all exemptions by the year 2000, for example those from the law on water, it will be necessary to modernize or build about 250 large treatment plants and about 350 small ones within the framework of the Z-project. It is expected that investment funds for ecology projects in the Ninth and Tenth 5-Year Plans will reach a volume of Kcs30 billion. That is why we place emphasis on having the appropriate state agencies, starting with the government and ministries, determine in due course the program of these investments, set aside the necessary research, development, and design capacities, and deal specifically with the development of construction work, its rationalization, industrialization, and the delivery of the necessary technology. We appreciate the initiative shown by the responsible functionaries and support the development of such production in, for example, the IMOVA plant in Sabinov. We also support the preparation of a scientific-production association by the Slovak College of Technology, the Metallurgical Projects enterprise, and the East Slovak Iron Works. It is also necessary to prepare

the production of collectors for emissions, measuring and regulatory equipment for the ecology program, as well as equipment for sorting and recycling waste. In the interest of increasing the fertility of our fields, we attribute special importance to compost sites, whose program, including the production of equipment, it is necessary to develop in Slovakia, also in view of insufficient capacities in Czechoslovakia and the CEMA countries. We support the initiative of the Bratislava Kovoprojekty organization and demand of the relevant agencies in Slovakia that, together with engineering enterprises, they speedily prepare this program and start implementing it.

Ecology projects deal with accumulated problems; however, we must not permit any new threat to the environment to emerge. In line with the demand voiced at the CPSL Congress, state-appointed experts and, above all, the national committees' construction divisions must not authorize any new investment or modernization project that does not simultaneously deal with the ecology aspect. It is necessary to speed up the solution of the situation in housing construction where timely and suitable treatment of sewerage is not provided for one-half of the apartments to be built in the current 5-year plan.

The use of scientific-technical progress and of new and progressive low-waste technologies represents a path with good prospects for us. By taking this path we will move away from predominantly remedial measures toward preventive measures. That is why we seek the modernization of aluminum production in Ziar nad Hronom, for example, and the development of production programs that will not put a strain on the environment. But the quality of the environment does not depend just on capital-intensive investment measures but, to a decisive extent, also on people's approach to its maintenance and constant improvement.

The more than 300 cases of water pollution caused by accidents in the last 2 years, unauthorized waste dumps, disorder at workplaces, devastated nature, tracts of land infested with weeds, damaged and littered vestibules and stairways of our apartment blocs—all that testifies to the irresponsibility of the management workers, organizations, and national committees in charge and to the indifference and even vandalism of some citizens.

The environment also comprises cultural values inherited from the forebears, architectural and technical sites, parks, and other facilities. They all deserve greater attention on our part. How many of the 400 parks set up in previous centuries call for a change in the approach by national committees or agricultural organizations to their restoration and maintenance? The same holds true for architectural monuments. The approach to them in Bardejov, and its results, which have even received international acclaim, could serve as an example for Levoca, Kezmarok, Banská Štiavnica, Kremnica, but also for the capital of Bratislava and other towns.

To harness and use people's initiative in order to solve problems, it is necessary to create conditions and wider scope for people and improve the supply of information to the public. Lack of information on ecology projects, for example, or on other projects involving the protection of the environment and the conservation of cultural monuments can generate the impression that these matters are not being solved, which is not true!

Let us not forget that the problems of ecology and the environment also have their political aspect and that anticommunist propaganda strives to misuse "ecological arguments" against socialism. A waft of such attempts is making its way also into our environment. While we welcome the interest and broad activity of people in questions concerning the environment, we are opposed to such conduct of individuals as disorients citizens by spreading "ecological pessimism" and generates distrust in the strength and the possibilities of our system and in party policy.

By means of education aimed at all age and social groups of the population, and at the youth in particular, we must exert influence on the thoughts, feelings, and conduct of people and guide them toward active participation in the enhancement and protection of the environment. This concerns, above all, observance of labor and technological discipline, maintenance of clean and tidy workplaces, their surroundings, as well as places of residence and recreation, but also concrete participation in collecting and sorting waste, in improving the surroundings, in the construction of ecology-related facilities within the Z project, and the like. Our environment will be such as we ourselves make it and as we succeed in maintaining and improving it.

Essential Need for New Approaches in Management [subhead]

Esteemed Comrades: The results and findings thus far from the implementation of tasks mapped out by the 17th CPCZ Congress and the CPSL congress show the essential need for new approaches in management.

Life confirms that the point of departure for achieving a fundamental turn in the intensification of our national economy and a fuller use of the qualitative factors of economic growth lies in the implementation of our intentions with regard to the restructuring of the economic mechanism.

The seventh session of the CPCZ Central Committee adopted a resolution on these issues and established the direction for further course of action.

It is essential for party agencies and organizations to realize that the process of restructuring places exceptionally high requirements on approaches to decisionmaking and to the implementation of tasks.

Our responsibility is rooted in the fact that it is the party that is spearheading this process. This fact simultaneously provides a guarantee that restructuring will be implemented thoughtfully, consistently, and responsibly, so that the advantages of socialism fully assert themselves.

Comrade Milos Jakes, general secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee, stressed in this connection at the seventh session of the CPCZ Central Committee: "The profound changes that we are approaching express revolutionary continuity in the policy of our party. Their aim is to raise our socialist society to a qualitatively higher level on the basis of the development of the creative potentials of the people and to establish conditions for a dynamic upturn of the economy, for further growth of the material and cultural standards of the people, for enhancing their social guarantees, and deepening socialist democracy. They are also aimed at strengthening the role of Czechoslovakia in the socialist community and at increasing its contribution to today's historic struggle to preserve peace."

This commits us to approach the tasks of restructuring with utmost responsibility and determination and to fully use the entire preparatory period to assimilate and master the essential changes.

We attach exceptional importance to the implementation of the comprehensive experiment in enhancing the independence and responsibility of organizations for their efficient development as well as to the consistent preparation for applying the new economic mechanism in the agriculture-food industry complex. Organizations that have joined the experiment already, or will join it, must realize that in verifying the exacting elements of the economic mechanism we are concerned both with gaining practical experience for operation under the new conditions, just as with seeking optimal solutions everywhere, especially in those cases where the impact of the new economic instruments, that is, the application of economic accountability and self-financing, may create a complicated economic situation. Such an approach will require consistent and constant control by everyone concerned, the evaluation of the results of the experiment, and the adoption of specific measures, especially such measures as would be aimed at increasing the profitability of production through the selection of modernization and reconstruction targets. The future development of production in the consumer goods industry must inevitably be based on comprehensive modernization and not on further inputs of human labor, raw materials, and energy. When we speak about fast and effective modernization, we must link it directly with new approaches in investment policy. It is, above all, quality and the time factor that are coming to the forefront. This means that the documents [on investment policy] that are now on the drawing board should enshrine the demand for the realization of turnkey

projects, coupled with the consistent provision of material incentives for investors, designers, and contractors pegged to the implementation of investment targets on schedule or ahead of schedule and to adherence to the agreed budgeted costs.

The implementation of the experiment requires that the scientific-research base, too, consistently prepare itself for the application of the principles of economic accountability, which can provide more marked incentives for, above all, applied research in the national economic contribution of the implementation of scientific and technical advances. This simply means putting an end to research for the drawer and making research serve the development of production and practice.

In the preparatory period it is necessary to solve the problem of the economic prosperity of agricultural organizations, particularly those operating under poor soil and climatic conditions. Proceeding from the new mechanism, both the central agencies and the previously mentioned organizations are thus facing the task of finding an optimal structure of entrepreneurial activity which will guarantee effects corresponding to self-financing [sentence as published]. Possibilities are emerging in this respect for entrepreneurship in developing services for the population, especially in rural areas. If they want to hold their own economically, agricultural cooperatives operating under poor conditions will inevitably have to set out in this direction.

As far as services are concerned, we emphasize that it holds generally true that the new economic conditions literally call for the development of competition and entrepreneurship so that their quality and ready availability improves. We must seriously consider the application of simple organizational forms. Greater scope should be given to small service enterprises as well as to the economic renting out of premises and to citizens' individual activity. This requires that the national committees show greater resourcefulness, initiative, and boldness in approaching the solution of these problems. We must not proceed here in a dogmatic and ossified way but at the same time we must respect compliance with socialist legality. On the other hand, the relevant agencies must also create appropriate material-technical conditions for the dynamic development of services.

An important task of the preparatory period is to ensure experimental verification [of the new economic mechanism] in selected retailing organizations and to provide for a smooth transition of the entire public catering sector to the new rules of management. All organizations must show a creative approach to the search for the best possible conditions for satisfying citizens' needs. In doing so, they will not get around the search for active methods of cooperation between retailing and manufacturing, methods based on the application of essential economic incentives, which should result in manufacturers producing what is really in demand and in retailing

organizations making use of all resources and possibilities available to them to exercise a positive influence on developments on the domestic market.

We therefore demand of the Ministry of Trade of the Slovak SR, state enterprises, the Slovak Union of Consumer and Production Cooperatives, and national committees that by deepening their own managerial work, by its greater flexibility, and by their more demanding approach, especially toward management workers, they establish prerequisites for meeting these tasks.

Our Public's Great Interest in Restructuring [subhead]

Comrades: Experiences thus far demonstrate the great interest of our public in restructuring. This is also confirmed by the results of the nationwide discussion on the draft laws on state enterprises and cooperatives. The CPSL Central Committee has obtained many valuable ideas not only concerning the finalization of the aforementioned laws, but concerning restructuring in general. We will have to capitalize on these findings in the further course of work.

Attention must now be focused on a level-headed and well-thought-out organizational setup of both the enterprise and central spheres of management. As for the organizational setup of the enterprise sphere, we believe that next to large production organizations there also have to be smaller organizations, especially in light industry, in the interest of a flexible adaptation to consumers' demand. This is common in the world and our experiences confirm it as well. Expediency should serve as the main criterion; it must find its expression in flexible management and in the growing effectiveness and profitability of production.

The system of internal enterprise management must also be adapted to this intention. In the past we applied many tested methods of internal enterprise management in this area; I will recall, for example, the well-known SPH [socialist enterprise management] system. In line with the draft law on state enterprises, it is necessary to revert to these experiences, as well as to the valuable experiences gained by Soviet comrades in the process of applying economic accountability and the brigade method of organizing labor and remuneration.

In the organizational setup of the central sphere, we must proceed from the principle of the federative organization of our state, which has proved its viability in the almost 20 years of its existence and has completely passed the test of time. Accordingly, the work of the national governments must be organized in such a way that they can contribute in the best possible way to strengthening the Czechoslovak economy as a whole. This means further strengthening the tried and tested forms and carrying out changes in the interest of more rapid socio-economic progress. In our view it is necessary to ensure that the functions of the national governments are more

fully carried out in ensuring comprehensive development in territorial cross sections [v uzemnom priereze], in the conceptualization of the management of branches, and in dealing with specific aspects of these branches while respecting the unified nature of the Czechoslovak economy. By defining this task the integration of the two republics will be strengthened.

In the interest of doing this it is necessary for state and economic agencies to work out appropriate proposals in time and submit them to the highest party agencies for assessment. In this respect we expect more marked activity, in particular, from the Government Committee of the Slovak SR for Planned Management. Also the cross-sectional [prierezove] agencies must become more actively involved in the work currently being done in federal commissions and in fine-tuning individual documents.

When implementing the work schedule, we must keep in mind that restructuring must lead to the best possible mastering of tasks connected with the preparation of a long-term forecast for the development of the economy of the Slovak SR, as well as the Ninth 5-Year Plan. The planning agencies, ministries, worksites of the Slovak Academy of Sciences and other spheres of research, and enterprise sphere must pay constant attention to these tasks. Their efforts must result in the required qualitative changes of development through 1990, as well as consistent ensurance of the objectives of the current 5-year plan.

In the work on the long-term forecast and the Ninth 5-Year Plan it is necessary to strengthen the conceptualization, the clarity of intentions, and the ways to achieve them. The final national-economic effect must be achieved by means of high utility values; there must be a fundamental turn in this respect. Counterplanning too must be oriented toward this. It should encourage the required entrepreneurship and commitment on part of economic management, work collectives, and party and trade union organizations in the enterprise-economic sphere.

The success of the planning and management system under the new conditions will depend on the efficient, prompt, and reliable functioning of the data processing agencies. They must not only test their new role in the preparatory period, but also reassess it and adapt it to future demands.

In the preparatory period the duty of control must concentrate on checking the observance of the demanding criteria stemming from the implementation of the new elements of the mechanism, and thus help to achieve new quality on all levels.

The restructuring will be realized by people, above all managing cadres, and we must therefore start selecting and training them in good time.

New Demands on the Work of the National Front [subhead]

Esteemed Comrades: The seventh CPCZ Central Committee session described the democratization and activation of our entire political system, development of socialist self-management, better utilization of the people's creative energy in socialist construction, and upsurge in their social activity and initiative as being some of the crucial prerequisites of restructuring. It stressed the need for greater openness in policy, for people to be comprehensively informed, and for them to participate extension in the administration and management of social affairs and in control by the public.

The further development of socialist democracy and the restructuring of social relations present new demands for the work of the National Front, and the social and special-interest organizations associated in it. The experience of the National Front shows that it is making a significant contribution to the fulfillment of the tasks of social and economic development. It mobilizes the working people to take part in the management and administration of society and it helps to solve the justified needs of citizens and to satisfy their interests.

Despite some positive results, however, the work of the branches of the National Front still leaves much to be desired in respect of more and better activity. Not enough use is being made of the broad base in developing the creative commitment of the people. Members of social organizations are not being fully involved in making important decisions. There is a lot of formalism in the work of agencies, and especially the apparatus, when they organize some actions. There is also a lot of bureaucracy, and a disproportionate amount of reports, information, and statistical data is demanded, and these are often used as a substitute for personal contact with people.

We must keep on consistently overcoming these and similar shortcomings, and creating an ever wider scope for the participation of citizens in the management and administration of public affairs, and for their interests, rights, and duties. State and economic agencies, enterprises, and organizations, too, must create suitable conditions for this.

At the same time, the seventh CPCZ Central Committee session stressed that the National Front is an open-ended system which makes it possible to enroll further organizations. In the National Front, citizens have the right to develop initiatives, submit alternative proposals, criticize, and to present their opposing views. However, the National Front is not and cannot be a place for political opposition. It expresses the plurality of the interests of the socialist society, and it differs fundamentally in essence from bourgeois pluralism, which—under our conditions—is the stage of development of society that has been overcome.

The Revolutionary Trade Union Movement will play an increasingly important role in restructuring. The development of socialist self-management increases the co-responsibility of trade unions, which will certainly find effective ways for political activity under the new conditions. This requires that their educational, organizational, and management work be raised to a higher level. Trade unions, which are the school of management and economy, are currently increasingly also becoming the school of self-management. Their task is to see to it that the will and national interests of the working people are asserted in self-managing agencies.

Restructuring opens up wide scope for the young generation and its Socialist Youth Union to assert themselves. Young people fully endorse the strategy of acceleration. It is not enough only to identify oneself with the current changes, however. In the Socialist Youth Union, too, it is necessary to change the content, forms, and methods of work from the viewpoint of the revolutionary tasks of the present. The present time requires young people to more resolutely combat formalism, ostentatiousness, mediocrity, indifference, and the sybaritic and parasite-like approach to life and its values.

Experience shows that the sincere endeavor, zest, and initiative of youth union organizations, their functionaries, and young people are frequently met with a lack of understanding and often even coarse rejection from the side of responsible economic and management personnel. We stress in this connection that one has to create an increasing scope for young people in enterprises, cooperatives, research and planning institutes, and at higher institutes of learning for them to assert their creative energy and initiatives, especially in the sphere of science and technology. Intensive educational work with young people winning them over and entrusting them with responsible functions in the implementation of the present revolutionary tasks is a political and party task of first-rate importance.

The other social and special-interest organizations of the National Front must also find their place under the new conditions and under the qualitatively new relations that are beginning in our society.

We appreciate the role of the Slovak Revival Party and the Slovak Freedom Party in the implementation of the economic and political tasks, and are convinced that they will become fully involved in the process of restructuring.

The national committees play an indispensable role in ensuring the comprehensive socioeconomic development of regional areas (teritorialne celky) and satisfy the basic needs and justified interests of the people. Restructuring requires that their role in economic development and in the process of the democratization of social relations be decisively strengthened.

The national committees are not making sufficient use of their powers and functions, a matter that negatively manifests itself in the development of regions, districts, cities, and villages. Social policy connected with restructuring requires a decisive turn in the extent and quality of services for the population.

We expect that, above all, the regional and district national committees—with the help of the appropriate ministries—will improve the standard of the elaboration of long-term concepts and medium-term plans for comprehensive socioeconomic development of regional areas and that they will have a greater influence on their realization. They should strive for a greater financial and economic self-sufficiency by raising the supplementary incomes from their own efficient and high-quality production, from services, from the share of enterprises' levies, and thus strengthen the self-managing character.

A very important thing is that the national committees systematically increase their influence on the creation and protection of the environment, and consistently demand from all organizations and citizens that they fulfill their duties in that respect.

The process of democratization connected with restructuring requires that democratic principles in the activity of national committees be substantially deepened. Much greater use should be made of the suggestions, recommendations, and proposals of citizens, collectives of working people, and social organizations. It is important to resolutely combat the high-handedness of the apparatuses of national committees, ensure public control of the fulfillment of decisions, and strive for closer ties with citizens. One must not forget that the methods of socialist self-management and direct democracy come to fruition precisely in the activity of national committees. We regard it as correct that a citizen who suffers harm as a consequence of an incorrect or unlawful decision should have the right to employ a legal way to demand redress. The qualitatively new tasks require the standard of the national committee's management be unconditionally improved. We demand of the Government of the Slovak SR, the relevant ministries, and especially the Ministry of Interior, reducing the untenable volume of—frequently useless—legal and ministerial regulations, and simplifying the methods of planning the financing of the national committee's management. The coming period, which will be administered in the new way, will be very demanding as far as the Slovak National Council's legislative and control activity is concerned. Experts and members of the public must play an even greater part in planning and control work.

The centerpoint of the work of the Government of the Slovak SR and the central agencies will be to responsibly master tasks arising from the restructuring of the economic mechanism, and expertly handle the planning of long-term and comprehensive programs within the framework of the Slovak SR. It is necessary to move on to economic methods of management more quickly and

actively participate in the implementation of changes in the organizational structure of the production-technical base and in the rational restructuring of the central state agencies. The times call for a substantial change in the style and contents of their work, and in the methods and organization of work with the aim of continuing to improve the quality of the decision-making process, including consistent implementation and checking of adopted decisions.

Everyone Must Work at the Level of the Times [sub-head]

Esteemed Comrades: The seventh CPCZ Central Committee session stressed that the successful realization of the strategic line of the 17th CPCZ Congress—the acceleration of society's social and economic development—requires that the entire party, its agencies, apparatus, primary organizations, and all Communists work at the level required by the times. To be able to do this, we must consistently master and implement in practice the Leninist principles of political leadership, deepen the vanguard mission of the party and all Communists, conscientiously observe the party statutes, develop intra-party democracy and creativity in close connection with the enhancement of creativity and responsibility for the fulfillment of resolutions. In perfecting party work, we must not only wait for instructions from above, but everywhere—on the basis of a specific analysis—launch actions and thus achieve the desired changes.

Experience shows that many party agencies and organizations have already begun to perfect party work and increase its effectiveness in this spirit. The purposeful efforts of the district party committees in Bardejov, Zvolen, Komarno, Bratislava's 3d district, and others, are exemplary. They are succeeding in deepening analytical activity, increasing assistance to primary organizations, strengthening ties with work collectives, and achieving better results in the management of party work. However, we must not conceal that we also have many party agencies and organizations which continue to remain prisoner of work methods that do not correspond to the new tasks.

We know that innovative approaches involve certain risks of failure. That, however, should not discourage one from seeking methods and forms of party work that correspond to the needs of the times and the requirements of restructuring.

The seventh CPCZ Central Committee session emphatically noted that one must not mark one's time and practice the over-cautious wait-and-see attitude, because precisely inactivity is the greatest risk. The basic task of party work is to bring about a fundamental turn in the activation of all agencies and organizations, all Communists, and the entire party in the spirit of restructuring. We must systematically perfect the implementation of the party's leading role. In its struggles, the party has become the political guarantee, the driving force of the

current revolutionary changes, restructuring must therefore be reflected in all its work. The thing that is particularly urgent is to substantially increase the ability of all party agencies and organizations actually to do things and to carry out control work. That presupposes, among other things, greater openness of party policy, a freer flow of information from the center to the membership base, and, on the other hand, the overcoming of formalism, and the enhancement of creativity, independence, responsibility, and the initiative of all organizations and all Communists.

The need to enhance the level and the quality of work also fully applies to our CPSL Central Committee, and its agencies and apparatus. First of all, it is necessary to improve the standard of the decision-making processes. In conceptual decisions, in particular, we must proceed from a better knowledge of problems. We must study whether they take into consideration economic, social, and ecological viewpoints and, especially, the motivation of classes, collectives, and individuals.

We realize the need to improve the style of the work of agencies and the apparatus of the CPSL Central Committee, in such a way as to be able to act as a model for regional and district organizations. We will strive to see that our deliberations are in line with the times, ensure a comprehensive point of view and harness the party's strength for the tasks of today and tomorrow in the Slovak SR. Let this serve as the foundation for renewing the authority of the Central Committee, its commissions, Presidium, Secretariat, and apparatus.

Also the check of how our decisions are being projected into the activity of the central state agencies and social institutions is not what it should be by a long shot. In the foreground there is the responsibility, activity, and initiative of Communists who are active in state, economic, and social agencies and organizations, for the creation and realization of the party policy in its entire comprehensiveness. To illustrate this I can name the fairly inflexible approach by the relevant ministries in introducing the comprehensive experiment, the results of the practical realization of the economic effectiveness of the wage system, the increasing problems in supplier-consumer relations, in the underestimation of collective contracts, and the nonfulfillment of economic agreements. We demand that a resolute end to put to the attempts to shift one's own responsibility onto the shoulders of others. The fact remains that a certain responsibility is indivisibly connected with certain functions. We also cannot agree with the fact that some ranking personnel, and not infrequently also state and economic agencies, are trying to shift so-called unpopular decisions onto party agencies alone. There is also the inability to cope with various abuses, with cheats and slovenly employees, who misuse loopholes in our laws. The working people rightly criticize such cases. They view them as a contradiction between word and deed. Therefore it is necessary to practice an open policy everywhere, ensure a free flow of information and control by

the public, and ensure that responsible ranking personnel account for their activities.

The apparatus of the CPSL Central Committee, too, must keep on systematically improving the quality of its work. The CPSL Central Committee departments are to a considerable extent responsible for making the real state of affairs in a given sphere known, they should truthfully inform elected bodies, and ensure a political approach to the implementation of resolutions and application of laws. They should prepare good-quality and expertly executed proposals for decisions to be taken by elected bodies and, at the same time, rid themselves of thinking only of narrow departmental interests. The CPSL Central Committee departments are to contribute by their organizational work and friendly cooperation to the implementation of resolutions and the party line in general and, in combination with it, carry out checks in cooperation with party agencies. The influence of the CPSL Central Committee departments must also show in the increased authority and effectiveness of work directly in primary organizations, and in the improved work of the apparatus of ministries and other central agencies.

Ensuring Development of Full-blooded Intraparty Life [subhead]

Comrades: An improved party work is unthinkable without the consistent development of intraparty democracy and collectiveness, without criticism and self-criticism. It is no coincidence that we stress this. Experience teaches us that precisely in periods of change we must seek and find effective forms and methods of their application and pay attention to the development of full-blooded intraparty life.

The accurate, profound comprehension of ongoing processes in society, and the discovery on this basis of optimal solutions, demands that conditions for a frank, comradely discussion and examination are created above all in the party. Everyone must have an opportunity to express his opinion, actively participate in the formulation of resolutions, and thus feel responsible for their fate.

Findings from public opinion polls attest to the fact that one does not always react correctly to suggestions and recommendations of the working people, and that there are even instances when one is persecuted for criticism. Party organizations cannot ignore such phenomena. On the contrary, we must create everywhere an atmosphere of openness and demandingness, support people who are not indifferent to shortcomings and abuses, who will fight actively for the realization of party policy.

The qualitatively new demands on the implementation of the party's leading role increase demands on cadre policy, which is one of the crucial factors for increasing national performance. Also the CPSL Central Committee proceeded from this when it discussed this important

issue with critical demandingness at the seventh session and adopted a resolution on the improvement of cadre work. Cadre programs and the statutes of party agencies remain the foundation of the system of work with cadres. It is necessary to note that the number of the so-called nomenklatura functions which are assessed by the party has increased by more than 40 percent since 1979, but this has not resulted in adequately improved work with cadres. Rather the contrary is the case. The personal knowledge of cadres has decreased, and so has the care for their individual political and expert development. That, together with the inconsistent application of Leninist principles and norms in cadre work, was in many cases manifested by subjectivism in assessment and haphazardness in selection and placement. Therefore we support the intention to reassess and reduce the extent of the party nomenklatura, increase demands, deepen responsibility, and show trust in state, economic, and other functionaries.

The implementation of the party's leading role under the conditions of expanding democracy requires, as the CPSL congress stressed, that greater opportunities be given not only to Communists, but to all who fulfill prerequisites and prove by their committed approach their sincere affinity for socialism.

Under the conditions of restructuring, which are characterized by greater independence and responsibility of work collectives, the implementation of the principle of electability of ranking personnel from several candidates as well as selection by inviting applications, the party organizations must make their political influence felt. They must nominate for leading posts really qualified experts of good character, who enjoy great authority in the collectives, who are capable of assessing the situation, and who can guarantee that tasks are successfully fulfilled.

In this connection, a politically exceptionally important task comes to the fore—markedly improving the system of cadre training. In accordance with the principle of life-long training, it is desirable—with ministries' active participation—to set up special units at institutes of higher learning that will provide for postgraduate studies. The Soviet system of periodic reviews of the competence of cadres is of great stimulative value for us too.

Raising the standard of training of the generation of young workers is a particularly urgent task. The structural changes in production and the entire national economy must be more clearly seen in the educational activity of the secondary apprentice training centers. In connection with the restructuring of the economic mechanism we support the proposal for them to be better coordinated and more uniformly managed and for them to be proved with material-technical equipment. At the same time it is necessary to adopt measures to achieve a more marked improvement of the expert, ideopolitical, and moral-cultural preparation of the workers youth.

At all types of schools it is necessary to make much more use of methods and forms of education that activate students. Schools cannot just be institutions that pass on facts and information. They must develop in students—in harmonious unity—the intellect, will, and emotional aspects of their personality and physical culture. We have enough educated, talented young people who can be trusted and entrusted with responsible tasks. We have an important task—ensuring the healthy renewal and continuity of cadres in leading posts. And therefore—in accordance with the results of the deliberations of the congresses of the Socialist Youth Union and with our many findings—we cannot accept the slow rate at which opportunities are provided for young, talented cadres to assert themselves.

We are justified in requiring that Communists' set a personal example. The overwhelming majority of the almost 450,000 members and candidate members of the party in Slovakia prove by their daily selfless work why they belong to the vanguard of the builders of socialism. However, at the same time it is necessary—especially in view of the demanding tasks and qualitatively new conditions which we are now encountering—to clearly raise the activity of part of the party members who have become indolent, are passive, and mark time. This also fully applies to many communist ranking personnel. Comrade M. Jakes, general secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee, stressed at the Seventh Session: "The party does not need members on paper. Its strength lies not in numbers, but in quality." Therefore the party agencies and primary organizations must create by their all-round attention conditions among Communists for developing activities that would enable them to assimilate the attributes of revolutionary fighters for the policy of the party. Let us measure activity not just by discussions at meetings, but mainly by results.

The strengthening of people's trust in the party calls for the Communists to come uncompromisingly to grips with all phenomena of petty bourgeois morals, greed, violation of socialist legality, and speculative enrichment, and to draw up strict measures in the sense of the party statutes regardless of function. Even though the situation has improved in that respect since the adoption of the letter of the CPCZ Central Committee Presidium in 1983, and concrete measures had been adopted, the struggle against these shortcomings and abuses remains an exceptionally urgent task. The party's honor and reputation is the highest moral principle of every Communist.

Closer Connection With Life, Implementation of New Methods of Work [subhead]

Esteemed Comrades: The successful fulfillment of the strategy of the acceleration of social and economic development of our society, oriented toward far-reaching changes in all spheres of social life, requires that the quality and effectiveness of the party's ideological work be comprehensively improved. This can only be

achieved by combining it more closely with life and the implementation of new forms and methods of activity. The main task of ideological work is to increase its share in the fulfillment of the tasks of restructuring.

Propaganda and mass-political work played a significant role in the elucidation of the resolution of the 17th CPCZ Congress, the Resolution of the CPSL Congress, and the documents of the 27th CPSU Congress. They mobilized the working people for successfully fulfilling political and economic tasks. Despite many positive results, some party organizations and agencies tackled the new tasks in the old manner and did not try to find new ways. Experience has affirmed that stereotypes and habits, which have taken a firm root in practice, are very difficult to weed out. It has shown that overcoming barriers of inertia in thinking and conduct will be a demanding, long-term process, which can be realized only in unity with changes in society's political, economic, social, and intellectual life.

The profoundness of the inevitable changes requires the ideological work to be intertwined with the entire political-organizational, management, and economic activity in order to activate the human factor and mold the new thinking that corresponds to the process of restructuring. The new tasks require much greater awareness, disciplined organization, in short—everything that is connected with the consistent realization of the strategy of acceleration.

The focal point of propaganda and mass-political work in the present stage must be centered on mobilizing the working people for the fulfillment of tasks connected with the restructuring of the economic mechanism, with enhancing the effectiveness of the national economy by means of developing science and technology and the international socialist integration. This propaganda and mass-political work should have an even more marked, more convincing, more concrete, and more specifically targeted effect, especially on ranking and engineering-technical cadres, and should seek and implement a manner of management, handling the economy, and education which would yield the greatest possible effect for both society and the work collectives.

It is necessary to make a much greater use of all ideological instruments to propagate the positive results and progressive experience of the best workers, Heroes of Socialist Labor, improvers, and innovators; to propagate progressive methods of work and experience gained in restructuring. On the other hand, it is necessary to wage a irreconcilable struggle against negative phenomena, slovenliness, indiscipline, poor quality, against everything that deforms the principles of socialism, against everything that has become outdated and retards advancement. The purpose of all our efforts in ideological activity is to help to achieve a high degree of awareness and social activity. This requires us to equip man with a scientific outlook on the world, relying on the composite system of values of socialism.

At present the importance of the Leninist principle is growing. This was also stressed at the seventh CPCZ Central Committee session—listening to people, mingling with them, and considering weighty social issues together with them.

Party organizations, Communists, and functionaries must approach the development of dialogue with the working people with utmost responsibility. They are the guarantee that this method will always be connected with the solution of concrete tasks.

Dialogue gives birth to the comprehension of the truth, the feeling for the new, the yearning for activity and self-realization. It enables the working people to participate directly in the solution of issues, express their views, to make suggestions, and to polemicize. It is necessary to learn to know their sentiments, encourage them to show an interest, speak with them openly, directly, and sincerely.

The urgent task of mass-political work is to offensively oppose views which equate the developments in the USSR after the 27th CPSU Congress and the events in Czechoslovakia in 1968. These parallels are being drawn by anti-Czechoslovak bourgeois propaganda. The falsity of these views is obvious. The development in our country in 1968—under the pressure of the bloc of right wing-opportunist and antisocialist forces—aimed at destruction and, in the final effect, at the liquidation of socialism. It was characterized by the disintegration of the very foundations of the socialist system. In contrast, what is involved in the Soviet Union and in our country today is the strengthening and the elevation of socialism to a qualitatively higher level, comprehensive utilization of its advantages and potential, and comprehensive dynamization of its development in the interest of a richer fulfillment of people's material and intellectual needs. The process of restructuring is being carried out under the leadership of the Communist Party. Its leading role in society is increasing; in this lies the fundamental difference compared with the period of crisis in Czechoslovakia. It is only natural that these facts are not to the liking of our enemies and ill-wishers of socialism. In the spirit of their practices to subvert, smash, and slander socialism, anticommunist forces are concentrating their efforts on breaking up the socialist community and destabilizing the situation in the socialist countries.

The class opponent systematically and intensively attacks the historic experience of our party, "reassesses" our history in his own way, fabricating historical parallels that suit him. This reflects his disappointment and the yen for revenge for the defeats in February 1948 and in 1968.

Our experience confirms that it is very dangerous to underestimate the insidiousness of the reactionary forces of imperialism. Ideological and class adversaries are trying to act as parasites on our shortcomings and

abuses, and speculate with our difficulties. Therefore a thorough and flexible solution of the problems that have accumulated is of exceptional importance.

The system of party education, the restructuring of which is being currently prepared, plays an important role in the process of the ideothoretical and political preparation of Communists, in cementing them and increasing their ability to act. Party and political education must prepare and equip them to a much greater extent than until now for practical work in work collectives and in places of residence.

The deepening of socialist democracy puts new demands on the information and propaganda media. Press, radio, and television editorial teams must continue to move away from monologues and to dialogue, and improve the flow of information to members and agencies. The public expects from our editors full and truthful information on events in the world, and especially in the countries of the socialist community. Programs, articles, commentaries and other products of journalistic activity must be bolder, well-informed, and critical. They must adhere to party principles and, of course, be marked by a high degree of political responsibility. Our opinion is that only then will journalistic work be useful. It is necessary to wage an energetic struggle against everything that prevents further advancement. We must not forget that the duty of the socialist journalist is to point out ways leading to the solution of problems, and—at the same time—substantiate solutions and educate people in the spirit of profound conviction about the correctness of the values of the socialist system, which many people accept as something completely self-evident. At the same time we call on the appropriate state and economic agencies, scientific institutions, and responsible functionaries in general to react actively to criticism appearing in the information and propaganda media.

Today, more than ever before, it is necessary to strengthen ideological sectors with theoretically prepared and qualified people capable of working creatively. A high degree of theoretical erudition of lecturers, propagandists, and agitators, as well as their methodological preparedness are the fundamental prerequisites for successful activity.

The overall process of the realization of the strategy of acceleration creates a great demand for social scientists. Life requires a more profound study and clarification of the fundamental question of the development of socialist society, enhancement of the ideothoretical standard of research, deepening the contexts between social sciences and the party-political, management, and other social practice, ensuring a more pragmatic and better organized approach to the development of the outlook on the world, ideological, and cultural function of science.

An exceptionally topical task of all ideological and political-educational workers is to launch a broad struggle aimed at overcoming dogmatism and conservatism,

which lead to the ossification of thinking and cause stagnation in the development of the theory and practice. However, our current determined struggle against dogmatism and outdated stereotyped thinking which is connected with it, in no case constitutes concession to right wing-opportunist views and theories. Experience shows that the best way to combat them is to adopt the Leninist approach to both theoretical and practical problems.

Esteemed Comrades: The past year corroborated our profound expectation and conviction that there is a way out of the complex and dangerous international situation. After many difficult years, caused mainly by the attempts by militarist forces to assert the line of confrontation, the genuineness and correctness of the prolonged struggle for a world without wars and weapons has become truly symbolically and very convincingly substantiated in the year of the 70th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution.

The continuing peace-making activity of the socialist community, headed by the Soviet Union, has yielded further evidence that precisely socialism expresses the true aspirations and interests of the world's progressive forces. The multifaceted initiative of the Soviet Union, which culminated with the USSR-U.S. agreement on the elimination of medium- and shorter-range missiles, is the first but important step regarding the solution of the most important and most urgent global task—eliminating the threat of nuclear war. It symbolizes the new thinking and the genuine peace prospects. Our people, together with people of good will throughout the world, spontaneously welcomed the results of Mikhail Gorbachev's visit to Washington, and firmly believe that this treaty can and must become the beginning of the process of universal and total disarmament even in the course of this century. We are proud that the foreign policy of our state contributes so much to the struggle of the world's progressive forces.

Esteemed Comrades: The successful fulfillment of our tasks will not be possible without an active approach by party agencies, organizations, Communists, and all working people. It depends on each one of us how socialism will continue to advance in our country. Therefore we must mercilessly, more consistently, and more energetically assert the line of the 17th Congress and, at the same time, in the spirit of the new requirements, creatively solve tasks and overcome formalism, hack work, and inertia, and seek new approaches.

Now, with the annual membership meetings and party conferences imminent, we stress that the fulfillment of the tasks determined by the 17th CPCZ Congress, the Resolution of the CPSL Congress, and the Seventh CPCZ Central Committee Session, will to a great extent depend on their preparation and results. We are absolutely convinced that we will take a decisive step in the realization of restructuring and in the fulfillment of the tasks of the Eighth 5-Year Plan.

The marking of anniversaries of important events by energetic activity and initiative has become a pleasant tradition. This year we will be celebrating in this manner the 40th anniversary of the February victory of the working people over bourgeois reaction and the 70th anniversary of the foundation of the common state of Czechs and Slovaks. Therefore we will link up with this progressive tradition with the objective of mobilizing work collectives as well as individuals to adopt pledges aimed at the fulfillment of this year's tasks, with emphasis on efficiency and quality.

Socialist Democracy 'Coming to the Fore'
AU201859 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech
16 Jan 88 p 1

[Editorial: "Democracy in Everyday Life"]

[Excerpts] Within the stream of social transformations evoked by the 17th CPCZ Congress (and implemented, small step by small step, in practice), the issue of further developing democratic principles, of developing socialist democracy, is coming to the fore; we simply call it democratization. [passage omitted]

Life itself is showing us the direction we must take. Today the greatest source of passiveness and suppression of initiative undoubtedly lies in bureaucracy and formalism. They strike root wherever they find suitable soil, and they often find such soil even in the good will to build a strong socialist state. In certain periods of development, the centralization of management and administration became objectively essential—but this was always only a temporary method. The new social order became stronger in both the economical and the spiritual sense, and the working man became politically mature. Management by injunction and from administrative perspectives became increasingly outdated.

The social relations, which we want to improve by joint effort, must give the working people the guarantee and certainty that their work and interests will not be sacrificed for the sake of "higher" interests—that their suggestions and warnings will not drown in the sea of formalism, administrative affairs, and an excessive number of regulations and decrees. [passage omitted]

The main purpose of the Party's efforts to activate social life is to resolve the society's key problems with the participation of the broad general public. To consult the people, to learn from them, to generalize and use their experience and suggestions—these are some of the decisive prerequisites in developing socialist democracy, understood by us as the unity of rights and duties, but also of social responsibility.

All this is linked with the need to establish a healthy critical atmosphere everywhere. Regardless of the function he holds, nobody can claim the right not to be criticized, not to fall under the generally applied criteria, not to be checked upon.

We are also establishing conditions for deepening the democratic principles of establishing newly elected party bodies. The annual member meetings and party conferences will determine whether the new Party committees will be elected by ballot, or by open voting.

At the initiative of the party as the leading force of social restructuring, the idea of elections by ballot is asserting itself throughout the National Front. Balloting has already been successfully carried out at the conferences and congresses of certain social organizations. However, for the sake of completeness let us add that some organizations have so far made no use of elections by ballot at their congresses or conferences; and even if the balloting method was used, sometimes no specific results and data were announced, for various reasons that cannot be considered sensible. One stopped halfway in learning about democratization, and for no reason at all. We also have Party organizations that regard the principle of elections by ballot with distrust; some Party officials are practically competing in getting "their" district or precinct to outdo others in rejecting the election method by ballot.

The deepening of socialist democracy naturally includes, above all, a comradely spirit, an atmosphere which encourages a frank discussion of various views, solutions, and variants, and a confrontation of standpoints. [passage omitted] We will also be energetically enforcing the presentation of momentous issues of public concern to the general public and to gatherings of citizens and work collectives in plants for assessment. [passage omitted] It is also part of democratization that the elected members of representative bodies, as well as the leading staff of agencies on all levels, regularly render accounts for their activities to the citizens. This form of developing democracy is encountering great difficulties in practice, where the old stereotypes continue to operate; but often the difficulties are caused by mere unwillingness to face the public.

In expanding the existing paths for developing socialist democracy and in searching for new paths to consolidate the people's socialist self-management, we firmly adhere to the socialist principles of our political system of the National Front. All hopes to legalize a political opposition (which could only be anti-socialist) are absolutely unsubstantiated. Such plans will not come true.

At its seventh session, the Central Committee of our Party called on our entire society to earnestly fight all the obsolete things and formalisms in our life, and all that has become ossified and needs fresh air.

The emphasis placed on the values of socialist democracy is, of course, no rejection of the principle of democratic centralism. In saying "more democracy" (and simultaneously meaning "more socialism"), we are not eliminating one of the components of this principle, namely centralism, from the structures of our society. This would contradict our historical experience and our

needs. The thing is to know how to distinguish between a situation when social interests are best served by self-management, and a situation when it is imperative not to relinquish centralized management. The experience acquired in preparing and working out the principles of restructuring the economic mechanism also shows us that we must find democratic forms for combining the experts' knowledge with the experience and views of working people and citizens. [passage omitted]

Nuclear Waste Treatment, Transport Viewed

AU211133 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech
20 Jan 88 p 2

[Interview with Jiri Beranek, chief inspector of the Czechoslovak Atomic Energy Commission, by Stanislav Stibor: "On the Handling of Nuclear Fuel and Waste; The CSSR Implements Agreements With the IAEA"; place and date of interview not given]

[Excerpts] The great concern of the West German public caused by the machinations of the Nuken and Transnuclear firms in the transportation and storage of nuclear waste in the FRG, about which we reported on Saturday and Monday [16 and 18 January], has again raised the question of the storage, transportation, and protection of nuclear materials. We have therefore asked Engineer Jiri Beranek, division head at the Nuclear Safety State Surveillance Authority and chief inspector of the Czechoslovak Atomic Energy Commission, for an interview.

[Stibor] How are the treatment and storage of radioactive waste provided for in the CSSR?

[Beranek] [passage omitted] Radioactive waste from the use of radioactive substances in industry, agriculture, other branches of the national economy, and in health care is shipped to, partially processed in, and stored in the central repository near the town of Litomerice. This activity is performed by the Institute for Research, Production, and Use of Radioisotopes, which is also operates the repository. [passage omitted]

All the radioactive waste that is the product of the operation of nuclear power stations is of low or medium radioactivity (with the exception of spent fuel elements). The basic concept is that this waste should be treated where it is produced, and that only after it has been converted into a suitable form should it be taken to central repositories. All Czechoslovak nuclear power stations are and will be equipped with technological lines to concentrate and reduce the volume of radioactive waste, and to convert it into solid form, which is easier to handle and permits reliable storage in the repository.

Two central repositories are under construction, one on the premises of the Mochovce nuclear power station, for waste from Slovak nuclear power stations, and the other on the premises of the Dukovany nuclear power station. In these two regional repositories of the surface type, the cement or bitumen-reinforced waste will be filled into

metal kegs, which will be stored in pits lined with monolithic, reinforced concrete and resting on a gravel sand basis, below which is an impermeable layer. After being filled, the pits will be covered with concrete panels, isolated against the penetration of precipitation, and buried under a layer of earth.

There are no plans for the construction of any other repositories.

[Stibor] And what about the safety of transporting radioactive materials?

[Beranek] This activity is based on the rules for the safe transportation of radioactive materials issued by the IAEA, which we observe. [passage omitted] The most complicated containers and comprehensive provisions are required for the transportation of spent fuel elements. After several years of storage on the sites of Czechoslovak nuclear power stations, these elements are shipped to the USSR. [passage omitted] To transport spent fuel elements from the VVER-440 reactors, for example, we use a special 20-tonne railroad container that can carry 30 spent fuel elements. [passage omitted] The containers' properties are tested with special equipment and, on the basis of positive test results, the State Surveillance Authority then issues an international certificate that is the prerequisite for transportation. [passage omitted] No less important is the supervision of each individual shipment, which requires authorization from the State Surveillance Authority, the Czechoslovak Atomic Energy Commission, and health officers. Special measures are taken along the entire route and throughout the duration of the journey. [passage omitted]

[Stibor] Do IAEA officers have the chance of direct supervision?

[Beranek] The terms of our activity are codified in the so-called agreements and guarantees which individual countries conclude with the IAEA. [passage omitted]

Under these agreements, individual states are obliged to inform the IAEA about all movements of nuclear materials on their territory. Nuclear facilities—power and research reactors, plants that produce or process nuclear fuel or enrich uranium, laboratories, and other workplaces—are controlled by IAEA international inspectors. The most important inspections concern the physical stocks of nuclear materials available to the operators of these facilities. [passage omitted]

Senior IAEA representatives have many times appreciated the reliability and effectiveness of the Czechoslovak state registration and control system for nuclear materials, which guarantees compliance with all commitments arising from the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty.

Part and parcel of the comprehensive regime to prevent the proliferation of nuclear weapons is the creation of conditions that prevent the misappropriation of nuclear

materials. This physical or security protection of nuclear materials in the CSSR is based not only on protection of shipments and nuclear facilities by armed guards, but also, to a steadily increasing extent, on the use of the most sophisticated technical means.

Polednik Addresses National Front Session
AU201221 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech
15 Jan 87 p 2

[CTK report: "The Role Played by the National Front Will Increase; Deliberations of the Central Committee Presidium of the National Front in the Czech SR"]

[Excerpt] Prague (CTK)—The Central Committee Presidium of the National Front in the Czech SR held its session in Prague on Thursday [14 January]. It discussed a document aimed at activating the National Front and its member organizations.

In his opening statement Jindrich Polednik, CPCZ Central Committee secretary and Central Committee member of the CSSR National Front, stressed that the increased participation of National Front organizations in the elaboration, implementation, and control of our policy is a decisive means of deepening socialist democracy and self-management. From the conclusions adopted by the seventh CPCZ Central Committee session it followed that the role played by the National Front, its political parties, and its social organizations will be significantly enhanced. In the spirit of the seventh session, the role of the National Front as the basic platform of our political system must be emphasized, in order to improve and intensify its impact. In close cooperation with the legislative bodies and state agencies in particular, and above all with the national committees, we must expand our citizens' participation in the life of our society.

During the discussion those attending the session voiced unambiguous agreement with the document. They also pondered new approaches to the work of their organizations. [passage omitted]

Leaders Public Appearances 12-17 Jan

AU201925 [Editorial Report] Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech from 13 to 18 January reports the following appearances of CSSR leaders (source, date, and page number of each report is given in parentheses):

Alois Indra, member of the CPCZ Central Committee Presidium and chairman of the CSSR Federal Assembly, presented the Federal Assembly's greetings message to Josef Puchmeltr, deputy of the Chamber of the People of the CSSR Federal Assembly, on the occasion of the latter's 60th birthday, in Prague on 12 January. (13 Jan 88 p 1)

Mikulas Beno, CPCZ Central Committee secretary, received a delegation of the Spanish PCPE party in Prague on 12 January. (13 Jan 88 p 2)

Ladislav Adamec, member of the CPCZ Central Committee Presidium and premier of the Czech SR, presented the Order of Labor to Vaclav Blecha, director of the Section for National Committees and Nationalities attached to the Government Office of the Czech SR, on the occasion of the latter's 60th birthday, in Prague on 12 January. (13 Jan 88 p 2)

Ignac Janak, candidate member of the CPCZ Central Committee Presidium and CPSL Central Committee secretary, attended a statewide consultation of secretaries of the regional committees of the CPCZ and the CPSL for party work in agriculture, food industry, forest and water economy, which was held in Prague on 13 January. (14 Jan 88 p 1)

Bohuslav Chnoupek, CSSR minister of foreign affairs, received Bulgarian ambassador Khristo Petkov in connection with the end of the latter's tour of duty in the CSSR, in Prague on 13 January. (14 Jan 88 p 2)

Josef Havlin, CPCZ Central Committee secretary, attended in Prague on 14 January a statewide ideological aktiv which was addressed by Jan Fojtik, candidate member of the Presidium and secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee. (15 Jan 88 p 1)

Josef Haman, candidate member of the Presidium and secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee, presented the Order of Labor to Zdenek Novotny, director of the "Timber Industry Prague" economic production unit, on the occasion of the latter's 60th birthday, in Prague on 14 January. (15 Jan 88 p 2)

Jindrich Polednik, CPCZ Central Committee secretary, attended and addressed a meeting of the Presidium of the Czech National Front Central Committee in Prague on 14 January. (15 Jan 88 p 2)

Jan Fojtik inducted Stefan Szerynsky as director of the Svoboda Publishing House, in Prague on 14 January. (15 Jan 88 p 2)

MSZMP Delegation Departs for Madrid
LD220323 Budapest MTI in English
1040 GMT 21 Jan

[Text] Budapest, January 21 (MTI)—Headed by Istvan Petrovski, member of the Central Committee of the Hungarian Socialist Workers Party and head of a department of the Central Committee, a Hungarian Party delegation left for Madrid on Thursday to attend the 31st Congress of the Spanish Socialist Workers Party on January 22-24.

Cooperation Agreement Signed With PDRY
LD202151 Budapest MTI in English
2124 GMT 20 Jan 88

[Text] Budapest, January 20 (MTI)—A delegation of the National Council of the Patriotic People's Front headed by Secretary Robert Ribanszki visited the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen from January 14 to 19 at the invitation of the Yemen People's Defence Committees. The delegation met 'Ali Salim al-Bid, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Yemen Socialist Party, and Salih Abu Bakr bin Husayn, deputy prime minister and president of the Yemeni-Hungarian Friendship Society. The People's Front delegation held talks with the delegation of the Yemeni partner organization headed by President Umar 'Abd al-Samad and with President 'Abdallah al-Karim of the Yemeni Peace and Solidarity Committee on the development of bilateral relations.

In Aden the Hungarian delegation held talks with representatives of other democratic organizations of the region. The National Council of the Patriotic People's Front and the Yemen People's Defence Committees signed a five-year agreement on the strengthening and development of relations. The delegation returned to Budapest on Wednesday.

Economic Chamber Presidium Holds Meeting
AU220854 Budapest MAGYAR HIRLAP in Hungarian
20 Jan 88 pp 1, 6

[Report by Correspondent Istvan Matko: "Enterprises Are Facing Tough Challenge—The Hungarian Economic Chamber Holds Meeting"]

[Excerpts] The Presidium of the Hungarian Economic Chamber held a meeting on 19 January. The evaluation of the effects of this year's system of regulations, the analysis of the major tasks facing the Chamber, the modification of its statute, as well as the Chamber's budget for 1987 were the points on the agenda of the meeting. In addition, the Presidium discussed the work program for the first half of the current year. Present at the meeting were Ferenc Horvath, state secretary for industry; Sandor Nagy, secretary of the Trade Union

National Council; Imre Kovacs, head of the Economic Policy Department of the MSZMP Central Committee; and several representatives of partner bodies and ministries.

In his introduction, Tamas Beck, chairman of the Hungarian Economic Chamber, spoke about the tasks of 1988. He stressed that the poor economic development that has been going on since 1985, and the insecurity prevailing in the foreign economic balance have shaken the country's financial situation, and this year's decrease in the living standard only further deteriorates the situation. This situation severely tries the tolerance of society and of the enterprises. All this warns us that we have to put a brake on the negative processes this year and the economy must show results, because its ability to operate is at stake. We must prove that the country is capable of solving the economic tasks and improving its own fate. This task represents a tough challenge for both the enterprise sphere and the economic management. [passage omitted]

It is possible to implement this year's economic tasks. Industrial production showed a welcome increase in the second half of 1987, and the foreign trade balance in convertible currency ended the year with a slightly smaller deficit than in 1986. The favorable developments in December 1987 and the mild winter experienced so far have created favorable conditions for the start of 1988, and we can also hope that we will not have to take into consideration a bad agricultural year in 1988. The new tax system and the period of transition, however, give rise to insecurity, and therefore the Hungarian Economic Chamber expects the economic management to eliminate this insecurity. [passage omitted]

For its cooperation with the government, the Economic Chamber proposes that the economic management should work out simpler methods, reduce the enterprises' administrative burdens, and eliminate the unjustified obligation to ask for permission—anything permitted by the regulations should be carried out without any special permission. The Economic Chamber also proposed that the government and the public bodies should pay greater attention to economic diplomacy, and the state's trade development and the enterprises' business policy activity should strengthen each other. [passage omitted]

Ferenc Horvath, state secretary for industry, supported the positive initiatives of the Presidium of the Economic Chamber, initiatives aimed at improving the economy's ability to function. He stressed that the positive enterprise attitude toward initiatives is important, precisely in overcoming the difficulties. [passage omitted]

1987 Agricultural Production Reported
AU220933 Budapest NEPSZAVA in Hungarian
20 Jan 88 pp 1, 7

[Report by Correspondent Janos Cseh: "A Strong Increase in Crop Cultivation Is Necessary—The Proportion of this Economic Sector Continues To Increase—The Goal Is To Produce 15.6 Million Tonnes of Grain—Every Adequate Type of Crop and Hybrids Must Be Cultivated"]

[Text] The gross production value of the agricultural

sector—in comparable prices—lagged behind the plan by about 2 percent, but exceeded that of 1986 by more than 1 percent, experts of the Ministry of Agriculture and Food concluded in their latest survey. The loss of production suffered by the crop cultivation—due to damage incurred through the winter, the unfavorable weather in spring and early summer, and a third year of frost damage affecting the grapes—amounts to more than 10 percent, compared with the plan, a loss that could not be counterbalanced by the almost 1-percent overfulfillment in the animal husbandry sector and a more than 3-percent overfulfillment in the so-called ancillary activities. The national income and value-added production of the entire agricultural sector are lagging behind the plan, and their value stands at about the 1986 level.

Crop cultivation made up 42 percent of the production value of the basic agricultural activity in 1987, but, due to the unfavorable weather conditions, this performance fell short of the plan by some 11 percent, and by exactly 4 percent compared to the performance of the previous year.

A decrease in the production of the market gardening branch is the fundamental reason behind this loss; a considerable decrease in production was caused primarily by the frost damage that affected the grapes and by the spring frost that damaged the orchards.

Field crop and vegetable production also lagged behind the planned figures (by 8.8 and 3.4 percent respectively), but exceeded production in 1986 (by 4 percent). The food industry branches that process crop products, however, performed according to the plan.

As a result of the measures aimed at safeguarding agricultural land, the cultivated areas cover the planned level, and one favorable development is that the decrease in cultivated areas has come to a halt. The arable land area further increased by some 4,000 hectares, primarily as a result of a decrease in the areas withdrawn from production and of breaking better quality grass plots.

In spite of the fact that the agricultural units sowed 2.7 percent more, the area on which grain was harvested decreased due to the extreme weather conditions. The agricultural units tried to compensate for this loss with corn but, due to the late sowing and the inadequate restoral of the soil's fertility, the average yield was 7 percent less than planned. The corn yield falls short of the plan by 4.7 percent. Thus, we succeeded in harvesting 14 million tonnes of grain instead of the planned 15.6 million tonnes.

Agricultural units produced industrial crops on an area that exceeded the plan by 5 percent. The area sown with sunflowers was 3 percent smaller than planned, and the area sown with soybeans was 44 percent larger than planned. Primarily as a result of a decrease in the production of large-scale agricultural enterprises, the potato cultivation area fell short of the plan by 14

percent. The cultivated area of oleaginous plants—an area 1-1.5 percent larger than planned—and the products obtained from these areas fulfill the raw material demand of the vegetable oil industry, and even provide enough for a considerable export of seeds. The average yield of sunflower and rape seed exceeded the plan, while that of soybeans fell short of the plan, due to the bad weather. The cultivated area of sugar beet is 17 percent more than planned and its yield was 3 percent more than planned. The amount of beet sugar is expected to reach the planned level.

The cultivated areas of vegetables in large-scale units slightly increased, exceeding the plan by some 2 percent, but the overall amount of vegetables fell short of the plan by 4 percent. As a result of a lack of rainfall, the production of onions, green pepper, and garlic fell considerably short of the plan. The supply of fresh vegetables to the people and the supply of raw materials to the processing industry were generally adequate.

In the viticulture branch the 3 consecutive years of frost damage affected new areas and caused considerable losses in production, thus causing further problems in this agricultural branch. The average yield in 1987 fell short of the plan by 33 percent, and overall wine production fell short of the plan by 38 percent. In fruit production the large-scale decrease in cultivation areas experienced in previous years slowed down; at the same time, however, large-scale planting again lagged behind the plan.

In order to implement this year's goals, every promising type of plant and hybrid must be examined, in addition to the domestic varieties, and those found suitable must be widely cultivated. The system of type classification and of state classification of crops must be modernized.

Grain production will continue to play a determining role and have a determining proportion in crop cultivation, and reaching a production of 15.6 million tonnes is a major task. In order to achieve this, in addition to the present grain and corn varieties, it is necessary to cultivate new types and hybrids. Thus, the goal is to achieve a yield of 6.4 million tonnes of grain and 7.5 million tonnes of corn.

Within the structure of cereal production, it is necessary to increase the cultivated area of corn. A smaller structural reorganization is needed in the case of industrial crops, and a decrease is expected primarily in the cultivated areas of sugar beet, rape seeds, and sunflower.

In potato production, achieving a virus-free crop of the domestic types of potatoes is one of the most urgent tasks facing this branch. In vegetable production, an increase in the production of goods for export must be encouraged. In order to achieve this, production of sowing seeds must be further developed, and stricter demands should be imposed on seed for sowing reproduction.

Production of protein fodder crops should increase by at least 15 percent. At the same time, however, a decrease is expected in the cultivation area of rough fodder and mass fodder, and at the same time the production level must be increased.

In fruit production, in order to fulfill the increasing demands, the grafting of suitable plants must continue. In viticulture production an urgent task is to carefully

regenerate the damaged vines and to choose the place, type, and cultivation method of new vineyards more carefully and responsibly than up till now.

The amount of agricultural products must be increased by about 6 percent in such a way that plant cultivation should develop considerably faster (by some 9.5 percent) than animal husbandry. Thus, the proportion of agricultural products within the main production branches will change in favor of crop cultivation—from the present 49 percent to 51 percent.

Reduction in Defense Spending Reported
LD211939 Warsaw Television Service in Polish
1830 GMT 21 Jan 88

[Report by Lieutenant Colonel Janusz Saposiek]

[Text] The budget adopted by the Sejm allocates Z545,845,536,000 for national defense spending. Defense expenditure will amount to less than 4 percent of national income—Z33 billion less than was envisaged by the 5-year plan. This decision was made by the leadership of the Ministry of National Defense at a time when the NATO states are implementing a broad program to modernize their conventional forces. This year, the North Atlantic treaty military forces will have 250 new tanks, more than 1,000 armored military vehicles, a considerable amount of antitank weapons, and about 200 modern combat aircraft.

The economy measures must not affect factors which determine the quality of training and the state of readiness of our military forces. They must not limit the necessary modernization of basic weaponry and purchases of essential combat equipment. The country's defense capability must be maintained at the present level. For this reason, the economies will mainly concern limiting of expenditure allocated to Army maintenance, reduction in the use of materials, fuels, and energy, and a further reduction in the use of official vehicles. However, one must emphasize that the implementation of this decision will call for strict financial discipline in the Army and an improvement in the rational management of allocated funds.

Following the example of previous years, the Army intends to carry out work for the economy, and even to extend this activity. The most recent example of this is the construction of the final stretch of the Lazienkowska route in Warsaw, worth Z1 billion.

Sejm Session Focuses on Economy, Finances

Jaruzelski, Messner Attend
LD211408 Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish
1105 GMT 21 Jan 88

[Excerpt] Here is a report by our parliamentary correspondent Henryk Walczak:

[Walczak] Good morning. The Sejm session began at 1000. Finances and the economy were the main subjects of today's meeting, attended by Wojciech Jaruzelski and Zbigniew Messner. A report on the economic plan, budget, and finance commission dealing with this year's draft budget law and six resolutions related to financial plans were presented by Deputy Danuta Juzala. Expressing the view of many deputies in the commission's

meetings, she said the drafts did not confirm the optimistic assumptions of the central annual plan for 1988, particularly regarding the acceleration of growth in national income. There was also a further worsening of the financial situation.

The draft budget law as presented by the government assumed a deficit of no less than 370 billion zloty; that is, 170 billion zlotys higher than the deficit in 1987. During the debate the deputies did, however, point out options for reducing the deficit, and this was agreed on by the government. Therefore, although the deficit is bigger—in absolute figures—than last year, its purchasing price [as heard] measured against the proposed price changes is smaller. The deputy cited the changes in income structure and budgetary expenditures, with emphasis on the growth in the contribution of income tax (?to) the budget with a simultaneous decrease in the turnover tax. She opined that such action was correct, but the deputies are critical of the so-called tax minimum established at the level of 40 percent of profit. It was stressed that this could have a discouraging effect, particularly on enterprises that until now took considerable advantage of the export tax relief.

On budgetary expenditures, Deputy Danuta Juzala reported that the deputies pointed out a high increase in subsidies on goods and services. On the basis of the report by the Social and Economic Council, the deputies also suggested a considerable decrease in expenditures for investment projects.

After the speech by Deputy Danuta Juzala, the plenary debate began on the topics that have been presented. [passage omitted]

Budget Resolution Passed
LD211850 Warsaw PAP in English
1718 GMT 21 Jan 88

["Sejm Resolution on State Budget in 1988 (abridged)"]—PAP headline]

[Text] Warsaw, Jan 21—The Polish Sejm has adopted, with substantial corrections, the government budget bill and drafts of financial plans of the state for 1988. Having adopted the 1988 budget, the Sejm obligates the government to produce in June 1988 an evaluation of the then financial and market situation. This evaluation will be examined by the Sejm together with the government's report on the implementation of the national social-economic plan and the state budget in 1987.

The Sejm obligates the government to speed up decisive and consistent actions involving the price and other-than-price factors of balancing market and the central budget. This applies in particular to: Further restriction of investment financed by the budget, starting measures that will permit to eliminate inefficient investments and enterprises in case the market ceases to do the selection,

starting comprehensive measures leading to better production and services, launching decisive undertakings to liquidate bureaucratic and financial barriers which now hamper the development of enterprise and engagement of means by enterprises and people for developing production for market and exports, preparation and introduction of effective principles of making a wage [as received] system, based on linking the wages with labour effects, encouraging the development of partner groups and other team-like forms of work organization, reducing the inflation gap.

The Sejm recommends taking up actions conducive to:

Limiting the increase in the money supply and a decisive submission of bank activities to economic requirements, starting comprehensive actions which encourage greater financial savings, both by the people and the enterprises.

In the situation of continuing inflation, the Sejm obligates the government to produce in-depth yearly analysis of society's living standards together with its reports on the materialization of the national socio-economic plan in the state budget.

Proceedings Conclude

*LD212101 Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish
1500 GMT 21 Jan 88*

[Text] We begin by going over to our parliamentary correspondent:

[Correspondent] Two minutes ago the 29th Sejm session which was devoted above all to state finances, ended. In the discussion on the budget, Deputy Premier Zdzislaw Sadowski took the floor. He briefed the deputies on the implementation of the economic reform. It has been in effect since the day the program was prepared. Changes are taking place on two planes: They have an institutional and organizational character and also concern the instruments and mechanisms of the systems. The institutional and organizational measures are as follows: the restructuring of the center; the restriction on the functions of parent bodies, thereby increasing the independence of enterprises; and the reduction in the number of enterprises of special importance for the economy from 1,400 to 400. In systemic changes, the most important achievements include the reorganization of the system of government orders and also the reduction of the obligatory intervention in the division of means and materials, the holding of auctions for hard currency resources, as well as simultaneous changes in the calculation of accounts with hard currency allocations.

Deputy Premier Sadowski also spoke about the incomes and prices problem. He stated among other things, that the last direct compensation proposal to be presented was for 6,000 zlotys. It was prepared before the OPZZ meeting and was presented there.

After the discussion, the government budget drafts and the accompanying financial plans, together with the corrections proposed by the Sejm commissions, were put to a vote. The Sejm passed the budget law for 1988 and also a resolution concerning the state balance of payments, the credit plan, the balance of people's monetary incomes and expenditure, and the principles of monetary and credit policy. The central plan of the fund for the development of culture, the state fund for professional activization, the plan for the fund to service the foreign debt, and the plan of the central fund for the development of science and technology were also passed.

In passing this year's budget, the Sejm drafted a separate resolution concerning its implementation. It set forth its views, bearing in mind the danger that would result from further destabilization of the market, and also the need to introduce modified economic regulations. The Sejm expressed concern due to the predicted deterioration of the financial situation in the current year. It obliged the government to present an assessment of the current financial and market situation in June. The resolution contains concrete recommendations for the government concerning the acceleration of measures whose aim is to balance the market and the central budget.

In the next point of today's deliberations, the chamber accepted a law for the council concerning the promotion of efforts to commemorate the struggle and martyrdom. The new law administratively places the council under the chairman of the Council of Ministers.

At the end of today's meeting, members of the government replied to written questions and those from deputies.

That concludes this report from Wiejska [street where the Sejm is located]

PAP Reviews Session

*LD212222 Warsaw PAP in English
2011 GMT 21 Jan 88*

[Text] Warsaw, Jan. 21—The Sejm adopted this year's state budget, accepting significant corrections proposed by the Sejm committees. Debates stressed society's longing for more visible signs of an improvement in the situation. The Sejm clearly voiced its stand in a special resolution and increased control over the realization of the 1988 budget. The government was obliged to present in June the assessment of the current financial and market situation.

Those were the most important decisions the Sejm made today at its first meeting this year. Also today adopted was the bill on the council for the protection of memory of struggles and martyrdom.

The debates were opened by Sejm Speaker Roman Malinowski. The first item on Thursday's agenda were a report of the committee of the economic plan, budget

and finances and the legislative procedure committee on the draft budget for 1988 as well as reports of the plan committee on six draft resolutions concerning financial plans connected with the budget.

Reports were presented by Deputy Danuta Juzala (PUWP).

During debates Deputy Kazimierz Pilat (PUWP) stated: "So far price rises, burdensome for society, have led neither to the balance of the economy nor to the perceptible improvement in the material situation of working people".

"Trade unions do not stand against price hikes in general. However, they are of the opinion that the rises should play only an auxiliary part in the process of healing the economy while the main stress should be put on activities causing an increase in the supply of goods and services, on significant reduction of production costs through better organization, elimination of waste, reduction of material and energy intensity," he added.

"Trade unions persistently state that it is prices that wind up inflation while wages only adjust with difficulty to this," Pilat said.

Deputy Kazimierz Orzechowski stated: "The government draft budget must arouse doubts as it envisages further increase in the budget deficit, an increase in subsidies and in inflationary gap. However, I am of the opinion that the government could not have formulated the draft in another way".

In consultation with the chairmen of the committees of the economic plan, budget and finances and of the legislative procedure, Deputy Malgorzata Niepokulczycka forwarded a motion to make an amendment to the Sejm draft resolution on the realization of this year's budget, concerning the necessity to undertake complex activities aimed at improvement in the quality of products and services.

Towards the end of the budgetary debate Vice-Premier Zdzislaw Sadowski took the floor. He said, among other things, that plans are to draft a law on the emission of obligations to allow physical persons to buy them. [sentence as received] It is also to be expected that amendments to the law on factory wage systems will be agreed upon with trade unions and the prepared system for the evaluation of enterprises, based mainly on their financial output, will be applied in practice.

At the same time, the vice-premier stressed, works are continued on all the topics included in the implementation programme of the reform. Speeches of the deputies reiterated the postulate of acceleration in changing the economic structure and creation of conditions for greater supplies. I want to stress, he said, that the whole implementation programme is directed on this goal.

The deputy prime minister also spoke about the problem of price-income policy. He pointed out that the proposal of a 6,000-zloty direct compensation had been worked out by the government before the OPZZ (Polish Alliance of Trade Union) meeting and was presented at that meeting. He also said that the principles of valorization of disability and old age pensions are designed so as to secure the real increase of these social benefits. The government has since the beginning aimed for such a solution as would secure full compensation of the growth in living costs (except alcohol and tobacco products) through higher monetary incomes.

Next the government budgetary bill and the related financial documents, with corrections proposed by the Sejm committees, were put to voting. The Sejm passed the budget for 1988 with four votes against and 38 abstentions.

The Sejm adopted resolutions on the adoption of: the payment balance of the state (one against, 20 abstentions), the credit plan, the balance of monetary incomes and expenditures of the population and the guidelines for the monetary-crediting policy (one against, 30 abstained), the central plan of the culture development fund, (3 against, 13 abstained), the plan of the state labour redeployment fund (20 abstentions), the plan of foreign debt servicing fund (2 against, 20 abstentions), and the plan of the central fund for the development of science and technology (3 against, 7 abstentions).

While passing the budget and financial plans the Sejm this time passed a separate resolution on its implementation, defining its standpoint in the document. The resolution was passed with 8 abstentions.

Under the next item of the agenda the house voted the law on the council for protection of monuments to struggle and martyrdom, with 2 votes against and 1 abstention.

Next were interpellations and deputy questions which closed the debate.

Solidarity Condemns Proposed Price Hikes
LD212131 Hamburg DPA in German
2009 GMT 21 Jan 88

[Excerpt] Warsaw (DPA)—The leadership of Solidarity, the banned trade union, on Thursday demanded that the government refrain from the forthcoming increase in prices for basic foodstuffs. A statement published by the Executive Committee of the organization said that experience has shown that price rises set the inflation spiral in motion and increase the sense of hopelessness among the population. The cost of living supplements negotiated between the government and the new unions are inadequate.

Solidarity favors "true reforms" and not an extension of the "sick economic structure" or of the bureaucratic system of the central administration. Market mechanisms, and not price rises ordained from above, must be decisive in the economy. This is why Solidarity is demanding that the government refrain from the price rises for basic foodstuffs and that there be a radical change in economic policy. [passage omitted]

Ministerial Council Reviews Reform, Agenda
AU211156 Warsaw TRYBUNA LUDU in Polish
19 Jan 88 p 2

[Text] PAP—At its 18 January meeting, the Council of Ministers adopted and submitted to the Sejm the final text of its own amendment to the program of the second stage of the economic reform, containing the changes agreed on during the social debate.

Following this, the Council of Ministers adopted a work schedule for the first half of 1988, involving over 60 topics. Individual tasks in this schedule have been formulated in accordance with the new role and structure of the management center.

Most of the government's work will be connected with implementing the program of the second stage of the economic reform. Mechanisms permitting a more rapid attainment of economic equilibrium will be established and improved, chiefly involving a revival of certain areas of economic life and support for production initiatives in all sectors of the economy. The rationalization of employment policy will also be discussed, as will the use of work resources in the national economy. Incentives will be provided for a better use of materials and fuels in the national economy, with special reference to developments that help achieve greater conservation.

Scientific-technological progress will be a frequent topic at government meetings. There will be an assessment of the implementation of the 1986-90 program to provide more electronics for the economy. There will also be a review of scientific-technological progress in industry and other areas of the national economy.

The government will focus on problems of special social significance such as housing, medical care, and social welfare. There will be comprehensive activity to provide more modern technology for the needs of construction and to improve its organization. It is foreseen that proposals designed to provide a faster solution to the country's housing problem will be examined. A program for developing and expanding the manufacture of medical equipment and drugs will also be studied as well. Measures to counteract primary dangers to health, protect the health of workers, improve health care for mothers and their children, and other objectives will be reviewed.

As part of its permanent tasks, the government will regularly assess the country's socioeconomic situation and the progress in implementing the 1988 Central Annual Plan and 1986-90 National Socioeconomic Plan.

Finally, the Council of Ministers adopted a resolution concerning a statute for the Office of Religious Affairs.

Party Official Views ZSL-PZPR 'Coalition'
AU211148 Warsaw RZECZYWISTOSC in Polish
10 Jan 88 p 3

[Interview with Andrzej Mieszkowski, chairman of the ZSL Voivodship Committee in Ostroleka, by Lidia Bojanowska and Jan Machynia: "Before the ZSL Congress—What Kind of Coalition?"—date and place not given]

[Excerpts] [Question] The PZPR-ZSL-SD coalition system has been subjected to many trials and has assumed various forms. How does this system function today?

[Mieszkowski] This system is now called the exercise of power through coalition, because it has been enriched by many new and original forms, ideas, and concepts. It is difficult to define the nature of this system unequivocally, because everyone has his own idea about it. Some people continue to stick to their old ideas about it, which were still in vogue not so long ago, but conditions have now changed completely.

[Question] However, it is a fact that the PZPR is the leading force in this system, and some people therefore say that the ZSL is not strong enough to be a fully independent party.

[Mieszkowski] It goes without saying that the PZPR is the leading party, but it is also a fact that previous economic reforms failed because they did not go along with democratization and reliance on the allied parties. That is why the PZPR now wants to create a broader political base by cooperating with the forces that pursue the same goals, but that have different origins and articulate certain issues in a different way. After all, the ZSL rests on foundations which the theoreticians of the system have continued to lose sight of along the road, because they have assumed that the peasantry was a transient entity. They have made this assumption because of doctrinal principles, which are now being interpreted differently.

[Question] Nevertheless, many ZSL members succumbed to these principles at one time and came to terms with the role of errand-boy that was imposed on them. We remember how these members became anxious when green banners appeared over the buildings of the Supreme Committee and the voivodship committees. These things were rather spectacular.

[Mieszkowski] But when there was a general tendency toward weakening the allied parties the discussions about whether the ZSL might regard itself as the party of

the peasant class were not spectacular. Now the tendency is to make honest efforts to make politics credible. We are not interested in wielding power. We want to achieve specific goals. That is why we have to take advantage of the assistance of those who tread the same road. This tendency has won the upper hand in the PZPR, too. As ZSL Chairman Malinowski said, the strength of the coalition is created by the strength of all its members. That is why every partner should see that the other partners are strong. But, as I have said, the reverse was the order of the day in the past. There was a rather strong representation of peasants in the Polish Committee of National Liberation and in the National Unity Government [immediately after the war], but we know very well what happened later on.

We continue to encourage people to write their memoirs about that period, but not very he told me outright: [sentence as published] "Why? Do I have to write that I was not allowed to vote in the 1946 referendum? Why should I upset my family?"

People remember what happened during the first years of the construction of People's Poland. Genuine tragedies were their fate. They fought for a new Poland, but when success crowned their fight, they were not allowed to help determine the shape of the new Poland.

No doubt it is possible to partly justify some of the drastic abuses by pleading that revolutionary processes were taking place and it was no time to pull punches. However, as society begins approving the new system, drastic methods must be abandoned and democratizing reforms must be promoted. Citizens should be able to identify themselves with the state. There should be no taboos for citizens and groups of society in the state, because taboos produce distrust. If those in authority distrust the people, how can people trust those in authority?

[Question] Your last statement may apply just as well to PZPR-ZSL relations. [Mieszkowski] In terms of history, the ZSL has passed its test in the system of alliance. After all, during crises we could have assumed the position of those who had been wronged and make common cause with the antisocialist forces. However, this did not happen, as we took the view that erroneous methods and the lack of safety mechanisms were at the bottom of the distortions. Today we are developing these mechanisms.

[Question] That is why fears that old practices may return are no doubt justified.

[Mieszkowski] As Gorbachev says, the Stalinist system is so deeply rooted that its repeated manifestations are virtually automatic. People say that they are in favor of reforms, but when they realize them they follow the old ways they have become accustomed to. Under the Stalinist system, sycophancy and humility were the order of the day. The personality cult, which we have yet to overcome completely, was the crucial element of that

system. That is why this cult is so deeply embedded in people's minds that they believe anyone who criticizes a party chairman, for example, criticizes the entire party. People identify persons with parties.

Another example: The ZSL has waged a long struggle for social benefits for peasants. As soon as these benefits were made official, the press reported that this was Comrade Gierek's doing. These and other methods of creating "superhumans" are very dangerous, because they produce an aura, a kind of holiness, which it is easy to believe in, but difficult to criticize or even to view from an objective distance. And distance never hurt anyone. [passage omitted]

[Question] How does the coalition system work in your own area?

[Mieszkowski] As efficiently as possible. There are no directives. We exchange views and respect them. We tell each other about our work and plans. We do this through our cooperation commission, which is convened as occasion demands. I must say that such occasions are frequent. We discuss everything, and nothing is taboo. Our partners do the same. It happens that people express views that not everyone wants to share, but then no view has to be shared. However, in the end we always reach some kind of consensus. After that, all we do is ensure that are decisions are fully realized. [passage omitted]

Attitude of Youth Toward Socialism Analyzed
AU211120 Warsaw RZECZYWISTOSC in Polish
10 Jan 88 p 7

[Kazimierz Olejnik article: "What Do Young People Want To Achieve?"]

[Text] What kind of people are young people of today? Are they equal to the challenges of the present times? Will they actively support the 10th party congress program for the country's development? Research carried out by many scientific centers led by the Institute of Research Into Young People's Problems may provide answers to these questions.

Our interest in young people is nothing seasonal because we are one of the youngest nations in Europe. Almost 50 percent of our countrymen have not reached 30, and it is worth knowing that our socialized economy employs over 6 million young people. Trades and farming employ another million of them.

These indexes will increase with each passing year because there are now over 2.5 million pupils in vocational and secondary schools and almost 500,000 external students. This means that the role of the young generation will be especially important in the coming years.

But there is nothing optimistic about the results of the research in question, which primarily show that young people are deeply distrustful of the authorities' activities. The data confirming this were presented by Dr Grzegorz Nowacki of the Institute of Research into Young People's Problems at a panel meeting of the Club for Youth Affairs run by the Association of the Journalists of the PPR. For example, only every fifth young person believes that we will be able to overcome the crisis in the next 5 years. Other young persons think that this will take 10 or 15 years.

Asked about the economic system they find acceptable, only 47 percent of the young respondents are in favor of the socialist system. However, what is disturbing is the fact that as many as 33 percent of respondents do not see any prospects for themselves in Poland and dream of leaving for good or for a time. The rather pedestrian aspirations of young people are also cause for worry. For example, only 40 percent of respondents want to complete secondary education and only a few percent wish to graduate from a university. The overwhelming majority of respondents—72 percent—see successful family life as their basic goal and 66 percent of them place family life above their careers.

In addition, young people regard work as a necessary evil and not as an interesting and satisfying occupation. As many as 46.5 percent of respondents said that working efficiently does not pay because wages are low and 25.9 percent said that one's skills are not properly utilized.

We could give other figures, but they would not change the general conclusion that large numbers of our young people are critical of socialism, negative about our economy and reforms, and, consequently, pessimistic about their future opportunities.

The annual opinion polls show no major changes in young people's attitudes. Actually, changes, if any, are too slow, despite the measures taken by the authorities in recent years to stimulate the militancy of our youth. These measures included the June 1982 government program to improve conditions for young people's initial careers and the May 1986 law on young people's participation in state, social, economic, and cultural life. This law has been in force as of 1 January 1987 together with its executive regulations. One might say that a law will not change reality by itself, but it can be of help to those who want to do something useful for themselves and the country. However, there has been a marked and growing stillness since the law was passed. So far no one has claimed the benefits of this law and of its executive regulations, including the Council of Ministers decree on the State Youth Fund, which is to play a key role.

This fund was supposed to support young people's economic initiatives, facilitate the industrial application of inventions, and organize housing cooperatives and similar useful ventures based on state subsidies and young people's own funds.

Any results? None. The young generation is still on the sidelines. Passivity and retreat into private life are still the order of the day. Young people do not rush to join youth organizations, and their presence in other organizations is virtually invisible.

Any way out of this situation? Prof Mikołaj Kozakiewicz thinks it is necessary to learn to live with the young people who are in opposition to the authorities, because no sociotechnical and propaganda measures will be able to change the young generation's awareness. However, while respecting young people's right to profess their very own philosophies, we should indicate to them that they can realize various partial personal and social goals, even though they do not accept the social system.

This can consolidate the young people's conviction that their place is here, in this country, for which many useful things can be done. Besides, social interest is not the only issue. One's own life, which must not be stupidly wasted by procrastination, is just as important. Filling one's life with meaningful work and social activities can only make it richer and fuller....

However, Professor Kozakiewicz has in mind strategic and long-term measures, which can foster young people's positive attitude toward socialism only in the future. Perhaps even in the next generation? But which politician could agree to this, especially since the tasks of the second stage of the economic reform require the commitment of all our people at this very moment and at every job and place?

I think that it is worth examining the performance of the system of the young generation's upbringing, a system made up of components such as parents, schools, enterprises, youth and social organizations, mass media, the youth press, cultural centers, sports, tourism, and so on?

Schools are certainly the most important component of that system, but everyone can see what our schools really are....

As for culture, cultural workers assert that their funds are too small to meet the needs. However, these workers could achieve much more than they actually do with all the billions of zlotys at their disposal, but for the fact that the present department culture is too rigid and bureaucratic in its activities.

The same can be said of youth organizations, whose misfortune is that their social activities depend on regular workers, which means that funds are enormous and results are negligible. Social activities have been reduced to a minimum.

To this we have to add the youth press, which, instead of educating, continues to promote Western models only, arguing that this is the sole way to attract readers. But is this the education we have in mind?

In a word, we must take a new look at the entire system of education and upbringing and critically evaluate what we already have. The thing is that there should be fewer new programs and various reports and more specific work.

A creative look at the present concept of youth policy should be the basis for modernizing the system of upbringing. Since the present concept has produced such feeble results, we should look for new solutions. We should admit that we have committed the error of wishful thinking.

Apparently, to make young people engage in work and social activities with the enthusiasm of youth, it was enough to create a concept of youth policy and to provide the necessary legal conditions based on the youth law and its executive regulations.

However, this has never happened, and the young generation is still full of discouragement, apathy, and even

could-not-care-less philosophy. Other young people continue to devote all their energies to getting rich for their own sake, without paying any attention to the interests of society. And still others see all their hopes in foreign countries.

Since the accurate opinion polls carried out by over 200 scientific centers have not provided answers to all the questions about our young people, we should search for new solutions through social discussions. We ask our readers to share in comprehensive discussions about the future.

Permit Given for Auschwitz Carmelite Convent
AU211411 Vienna DIE PRESSE
in German 21 Jan 88 p 2

[Text] The Warsaw Government has given official permission for the construction of a Carmelite convent and a Jewish-Christian center near the former concentration camp of Auschwitz. Jewish associations originally opposed this project.

Solemn Session Marks Ceausescu's Birthday
AU211921 Bucharest AGERPRES in English
1847 GMT 21 Jan 88

[Text] Bucharest, AGERPRES, 21/01/1988—A solemn scientific session was arranged in Bucharest on January 21 by the Ministry of National Defence on the anniversary of over 55 years of revolutionary activity and the 70th birthday of Nicolae Ceausescu, RCP general secretary, president of Romania, supreme commander of the Armed Forces.

Attending were full and alternate members of the Executive Political Committee of the CC of the RCP, full and alternate members of the CC of the RCP, members of the management board of the Ministry of National Defence, scientific researchers in military theory and doctrine, generals and officers.

Reading papers were Ion Coman, member of the Executive Political Committee, secretary of the CC of the RCP, Colonel General Vasile Milea, alternate member of the Executive Political Committee of the CC of the RCP, national defence minister, first deputy and deputy ministers of National Defence, as well as Constantin Oancea, deputy minister of foreign affairs. The papers emphasized Nicolae Ceausescu's involvement, from early youth, in the social struggles of the working class, his role in organizing the actions of the progressive forces in Romania, led by the RCP, against fascism and revisionism, against war threat, for the safeguarding of the supreme interests of the Romanian nation.

The papers pay deep homage to the RCP general secretary, president of Romania, Nicolae Ceausescu, architect of modern Socialist Romania, who, through his theoretical and practical activity, imparted, after the Ninth RCP Congress of 1965 when he was entrusted with the destinies of the Romanian nation, an unprecedented dynamism to the process of building the new system in this country. They highlighted the role of the RCP and Romanian state leader in the drafting and implementation of the country's economic and social development strategy, substantiated by a thorough knowledge of Romanian realities, by a scientific analysis of the contemporary international social and political life, in the ever more powerful assertion of the RCP as the leading political force, the vital centre of society, in the process of renewing and enriching national and international revolutionary thought and practice.

Emphasis was placed on the activity carried on by Nicolae Ceausescu in the first years of revolutionary transformation of the Romanian Army, when he held highly responsible offices within it, his concern, in his capacity as supreme commander of the Armed Forces, for the enhancement of the country's defence capacity, the modernization of the military body, the setting up of the national defence industry, the assertion of the Army as a means of political, patriotic and revolutionary education of the young generations.

The papers underscored the fact that President Nicolae Ceausescu worked out a unitary and comprehensive outlook on national defence as the work and cause of the entire people, emphasizing the principles and original doctrines which have enriched military science, strategy and art. Stress was laid on the achievements scored by the Armed Forces in combat and political training, in asserting themselves as an active participant in the entire economic, sociopolitical life of the country.

Emphasis was also placed on the Romanian head of state's sustained international activity for the achievement of general disarmament, nuclear disarmament in the first place, for cooperation and understanding among peoples, for the safeguarding of the independence and sovereignty of all nations.

The participants in the solemn scientific session addressed a telegram to the RCP general secretary, president of Romania, supreme commander of the Armed Forces, Nicolae Ceausescu.

State Security Meeting Message to Ceausescu
AU201033 Bucharest SCINTEIA in Romanian
13 Jan 88 p 5

["Message to Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu, RCP Secretary General, President of the SR of Romania, and Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces, from the Participants in the Accountability Meeting of the Command and Party Aktiv of the State Security Department," date and place of the meeting not given]

[Text] Much beloved and esteemed Supreme Commander: In an atmosphere of strong and unanimous revolutionary commitment, in which all the working people of our country work with determination and devotion to fulfill the great objectives drawn up by you, much beloved and esteemed Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu, in the masterly report you presented at the Party National Conference, in order to ensure the intensive development of the national economy and achieve new quality in all fields of activity, during this accountability meeting the command and the party aktiv of the State Security Department have thoroughly examined, in a critical and self-critical spirit and with great exactingness and communist efficiency, the activity carried out in 1987 to fulfill their tasks of implementing the party policy on defending state security. Likewise, with great responsibility the meeting established ways and means to optimally fulfill the mission devolving on us from the party decisions and the laws of the country, as well as from your recommendations and guidelines, which are the foundation for all our activity.

With great respect, outstanding admiration, and great appreciation, the participants in the meeting have emphasized your revolutionary spirit, ardent patriotism, profound humanism, dynamism, and unequalled energy, which are characteristics of the heroic activity that you have devoted for 55 years—with complete self-denial

and devotion—to ensuring the well-being and happiness of the nation and to fulfilling the people's supreme aspirations; the participants also stressed that these unparalleled qualities are a brilliant working and living example which the Communists and all the security personnel are determined to follow to closely.

During the meeting the participants strongly emphasized that the great successes achieved in the "Nicolae Ceausescu Era" in the field of developing and modernizing the national economy, science, education, and culture, perfecting socialist democracy, and raising the quality of the life and work of the whole nation are firmly connected with your prodigious activity.

With particular satisfaction and justified patriotic pride, the meeting praised the outstanding activity you most consistently carry out to ensure Romania's most forceful assertion in the world and the force, boldness, courage, correctness, and the humanism of the principles and actions you promote in the entire foreign policy of our party and state, to ensure the fulfillment of mankind's great aspirations for disarmament, security, peace, friendship, and cooperation.

The proceedings of the accountability meeting express the complete adherence of the security apparatus to the domestic and foreign policy promoted by our party and state, and are an opportunity to reassert our unflinching determination to work with determination, strength, and complete patriotic devotion to actively contribute to the work of fulfilling in an exemplary way the objectives of the 13th RCP Congress and the tasks set forth by the party national conference, and thus see to it that the entire security activity is—to a greater extent and in an organic way—integrated into the general efforts of our nation in the great and wonderful work to build socialism and communism.

We are fully convinced that the positive results we obtained in our activity are because of the direct guidance of the party and to your permanent recommendations, much esteemed and beloved Comrade Supreme Commander; the command and the party aktiv, and the whole security apparatus extend to you ardent gratitude and heartfelt thanks for the constant care you show for the activity of the State Security Department, so that this activity is continuously adapted to the evolution of the political and socioeconomic realities.

In the spirit of your priceless guidance and recommendations and of the conclusions and tasks deriving from the resolution of the PEC of the RCP Central Committee held on 27 November, we have thoroughly, exactly, and seriously examined the cause of the shortcomings and lags manifested in the activity we carried out during the last year and we pledge to work with high communist responsibility to develop and strengthen the revolutionary spirit and to unflinchingly implement the principles

of party work and the provisions of the country's laws, and thus ensure the permanent development of the operational capacity of all the units within the State Security Department.

We report to you, Comrade Supreme Commander, that in carrying out your orders and recommendations we will continue to focus on preventing actions that might harm national interests, on ensuring the observance of socialist laws, on defending social and state order, and on firmly fighting all attempts against the revolutionary achievements of the working people or against state security.

Strongly mobilized by the masterly report you presented at the party national conference and by the decisions endorsed by this great democratic forum of the Romanian Communists and constantly guided by your thesis, that is of extraordinary significance on building socialism and communism with the people and for the people, we will continue to militate to improve the cooperation with all the bodies of the workers' revolutionary democracy and with the working people's collectives in order to defend and develop the national economy and the supreme values of our socialist system.

We reassert our firm determination to do all we can to fulfill our tasks and missions in an exemplary way and we solemnly pledge to you, Comrade Supreme Commander, to continue to increase our vigilance and the revolutionary combat spirit in our activity, and to make greater efforts to ensure the multifaceted ideological, political, military, and professional training of our troops, in order to constantly assert a high spirit of duty and responsibility toward the party and people.

With profound respect, permit us to voice the feelings of boundless love and great esteem we harbor for you, Comrade Supreme Commander, the most beloved son of our nation, outstanding strategist and brilliant founder of Socialist Romania, prominent international political personality, and the great hero among the heroes of our nation, and permit us to express the ardent gratitude of the Communists and of the whole security apparatus for the heroic activity you have devoted, with unparalleled devotion and self-denial, to raising the homeland to ever higher peaks of civilization and progress.

With greatest feelings of appreciation and honor, and with the most profound respect, we extend all our gratitude to Comrade Academician Doctor Engineer Elena Ceausescu, an outstanding politician and scientist of world renown and who enjoys high international appreciation, for the outstanding contribution she has made to drafting and implementing our party and state policy and to ensuring the continuous development of Romanian science, education, and culture.

With most ardent feelings of love and great patriotic enthusiasm, together with all our nation we prepare for your upcoming birthday and the 55th anniversary of the

revolutionary activity you have heroically carried out with unflinching confidence in the triumph of socialism and communism on the soil of our dear homeland; we express our profound gratitude and, from the bottom of our hearts, we extend to you, much beloved and esteemed Comrade Supreme Commander, wishes for a long life, good health and power in work, and many bright years at the helm of our party and state, so that you can lead our diligent and talented people toward newer and ever greater victories, which will ensure the multifaceted development of Socialist Romania and the ever greater, free, dignified, and sovereign assertion of our country among the ranks of the world's nations.

Together with the military homage we pay to you on this anniversary, we also extend to you the firm pledges of the command and the party aktiv, and of all the members of the State Security department to unswervingly serve the interests of our socialist nation, and we solemnly assure you that there is no greater or nobler ideal for us than to wholeheartedly serve the homeland, the party, and the people, and to defend the security of our state and the freedom, independence, sovereignty, and integrity of the Socialist Republic of Romania.

Long live the Comrade Supreme Commander!

The Command and Party Aktiv of the State Security Department.

Comparison of Report on 14 Jan PEC Meeting

Bucharest SCINTEIA in Romanian on 15 January carries on page 1 a 1,400-word report on the PEC meeting held in Bucharest on 14 January. The SCINTEIA report, entitled "Meeting of the PEC of the RCP Central Committee under Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu's chairmanship," has been compared with the Bucharest AGERPRES English version published in the 19 January 1988 East Europe DAILY REPORT, pages 52-53, revealing the following variations:

Page 53, left column, second paragraph, beginning of first sentence reads in SCINTEIA: ...The PEC examined and approved measures for the setting up, administration, and use of the state's centralized foreign currency fund. [new paragraph]

The PEC decided to set up the state's centralized foreign currency fund, with a view to increasing responsibility in obtaining, administering, and using the foreign currency resources in accordance with the foreign currency income and payment balance.

In connection with the strict observance of the principles of self-management and self-administration, the PEC decided that the income and expenditure budget of central units and all enterprises should be finalized in January and, within this framework, particular attention should be paid to achieving and ensuring a proper

administration of the foreign currency funds. The general meetings of working people will have to broadly discuss the income and expenditure budget of each unit and will have to closely follow the strict observance of the principles of self-management and self-administration, as well as the strengthening of collective and individual responsibility for the way in which the entrusted material and financial funds are administered. [new paragraph]

The PEC examined and approved the proposals regarding the setting up of the Ministry of Farm Produce Contracting and Acquisition. (inserting additional passage per SCINTEIA version)

Page 53, right column, last paragraph of article, last sentence to end of item reads: ... over the world. [new paragraph]

The PEC also resolved current problems of the party and state activity. (supplying paragraph per SCINTEIA version)

AGERPRES Reviews Industrial Growth AU211926 Bucharest AGERPRES in English 1837 GMT 21 Jan 88

[Text] Bucharest, AGERPRES, 21/1/1988—As far back as 1945 the Romanian Communist Party assumed the responsibility to make Romania a state with a modern economy with industrialization as its firm basis. In the mid-60's—in 1965—the picture of the country's economy had changed: Industry had increased its contribution to national income formation to 48.9 per cent, as a result of the 12 time growth of electricity production, 42 time increase of the mechanical engineering production and 117 time rise in the chemical production.

The year 1965 is another milestone: It was the year of the Ninth RCP Congress that made an historic decision: About one-third of the national income was to go to accumulation, and this has been so ever since. The fact changed altogether the scope of the industrialization process. From the 1965 reference year investment in industry was 1.6 times larger in 1970, nearly tripled in 1975 and went up 4.6 times in 1985. Romania's industrial production averaged 9.5 per cent a year over 1966-1985, one of the highest rates in the world. In 1985, industrial production had increased sixfold from 1965. With a more than nine-time growth in twenty years, Romania's exports in 1985 were supplied by industry in a production of 63 per cent. The same year, the share of industry to the formation of the national income—which had also increased 4.35 times from 1965—had risen to 62.7 per cent.

That dynamic pace of industry was accompanied by the greater stress laid on the intensive growth and quality factors. The 12 times growth of the production of mechanical engineering over 1965-1985 had a chain effect on industrial modernization as a whole. Romania

is now 90-95 self-sufficient in machinery, equipment and plant. Products that could not be made in 1965 are now manufactured serially: computers, compressor refrigerators, automobiles. In 1985, 89,393 metal-cutting machine tools or other metalworking tools were made. That same year Romania made 43 times as many hydraulic presses and 8.5 times as many roller bearings as in 1965, whereas the sea-going vessels built in the country had their capacity increased from 29,000 dwt to 274,000 dwt. Faster than the average industrial growth was the pace at which the chemical industry developed: together with mechanical engineering, it makes more than half of the industrial production and manufactured exports. Romania—32nd in the world in terms of population and 75th in terms of its area—is the world's seventh producer of natural gas and mineral fertilizer, eighth caustic soda, synthetic yarn and fibre producer, 11th synthetic rubber producer and 15th gasoline producer. An about 70 time increase in the value of the production of automation and computer technology, electrical engineering and electronics, a nearly 50 time growth of the fine mechanical and optical production in

terms of value are further evidence of the changes in the structure of industry after the Ninth RCP Congress. The fact is worth mentioning that over 1966-1985 productivity in all-country industry increased 3.4 times, to contribute 75 per cent to the overall growth of productivity in the last 5-year plan period (1981-1985), following the promotion of 6,200 new and updated technologies, of new automation system, more particularly in chemistry, metallurgy, heavy equipment industry, machine building, electrical engineering and electronics.

In the current 5-year period, the development of the Romanian economy relies on the intensive growth of industry. According to the directives of the Thirteenth RCP Congress, net industrial production is to increase at an average annual rate of about 10 per cent with stress on the manufacture of high-performance products apt to meet the requirements of all the branches of the national economy and world market. The fact is significant that productivity in industry will double until 1990 from 1980, with 95 per cent of the Romanian industrial products on a par with world best quality standards.

LCY Commission on Constitutional Changes
LD211350 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service
in Serbo-Croatian 1237 GMT 21 Jan 88

[Text] Belgrade, 21 Jan (TANJUG)—The discussion of the changes to the Constitution was not well organized, and insufficient Marxist approach was used, both in the discussion as a whole and in the national question, Dusan Dragosavac said today at a session of the Commission for Intranational Relations of the LCY Central Committee.

It seems that for a long time the LC has been forgetting historical responsibility for social development. How is it that the LC and its leadership are not in the position to influence the situation, Dragosavac asked in the introductory speech. Is it not because a bright future is being promised, while nothing is being done for it in the present?

Under the title of "Constitutional Changes and a Further Development of Intranational Relations," today's theme did not inspire the participants very much. Mostly well-known opinions and themes were reiterated: It is a matter of reform and not of a change to the constitutional system; what we do not need here are confederalism and bureaucratism, nationalism and Stalinism (Dusan Janic). This is not a matter of "idlers among our ranks" nor of "the enemy from the outside."

Ivan Peric recalled the unity of production relations, the market and technology, and said that constitutional changes could not be a matter for agreement between political forces. Simo Evetak also spoke of theoretical and methodological confusion in discussions, adding that it was about time to cut the line with the Soviet concept of federalism.

Vojvodina Commission Supports Changes
LD211610 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service
in Serbo-Croatian 1100 GMT 21 Jan 88

[Text] Novi Sad, 21 Jan (TANJUG)—The constitutional commission of Vojvodina today gave its unanimous support to the amended proposal by the Presidency of the SR of Serbia to initiate changes in the Republic's Constitution. The agreement to this effect was described as being of exceptional political importance. The commission emphasized its determination to continue concerted efforts to draw up the amendments, and defined its proposed decision to give a go ahead for changes in the Serbian Constitution. The text of the decision will be submitted to the Vojvodina Assembly, the three chambers of which are due to meet at the end of January.

Stambolic Appointed International Bank Head
LD211359 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service
in Serbo-Croatian 1235 GMT 21 Jan 88

[Summary] Belgrade, 21 Jan (TANJUG)—A session of the Assembly of the Yugoslav Bank for International Economic Cooperation today appointed Ivan Stambolic,

member of the Presidency of the SR of Serbia as chairman of the bank's management board. Ilija Marjanovic was appointed deputy chairman.

FEC Endorses Laws on Highways, Export Credits
LD212054 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service
in Serbo-Croatian 1752 GMT 21 Jan 88

[Excerpt] Belgrade, 21 Jan (TANJUG)—The FEC, at today's session presided over by Janez Zemljarič, endorsed the draft law on the financing of the construction of the brotherhood-unity highway and roads serving the entire country, as well as their modernization. [passage omitted]

The FEC also endorsed the draft amendments and addenda to the law on the Yugoslav Bank for international economic cooperation. The aim is to ensure funds on a longer-term basis, so that the bank can accomplish its tasks. This would make possible a greater participation of the Yugoslav economy in the international market and increase foreign currency income. The law would come into effect as early as the first quarter of this year so that Yugoslav exports achieved through the credit support of the Yugoslav Bank can also be increased.

The proposed decision on the implementation of the goals and tasks of the joint new money issue and monetary policy and the joint foundations of the credit policy in 1988 was also endorsed. Monetary-credit policy supports the basic goals of the economic policy for this year—the curbing of inflation, foreign economic balance, and corresponding economic growth and employment, which means that it will be restrictive.

The FEC examined a report on negotiations so far by the Yugoslav delegation with the IMF mission, which is presently on a visit to our country.

Federation Council Meets, Views Change
LD212046 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service
in Serbo-Croatian 1352 GMT 21 Jan 88

[Excerpts] Belgrade, 21 Jan (TANJUG)—Today at a session presided over by Lazar Mojsov, president of the SFRY Presidency, members of the Council of the Federation resumed a discussion started at the end of last year on changes in the political and economic system. The debate, in which concern was expressed over the situation in society and the need to find a faster solution for a way out of the crisis, was preceded by two introductory speeches. Bosko Krunić, president of the LCY Central Committee Presidium, informed members of the Council of the Federation about the preparations for the forthcoming LCY conference, and then Milos Milosavljević, vice president of the FEC, at length spoke about the fulfillment of the established economic policy and the changes to the economic system that are envisaged.

The most important tasks at the beginning of the year are to increase production and exports in order to eliminate the causes of delays in industrial production. According to Milosavljevic, in December conditions were ensured for significant imports and raw materials. Assessing that the adoption of the resolution was very significant, the vice president of the FEC recalled that the measures adopted with this document should stimulate production, in particular production intended for exports. [passage omitted]

The vice president of the FEC in particular pointed out that with joint efforts and interests it is expected that negotiations with foreign creditors would be finalized, which is very significant for maintaining our foreign liquidity, ensuring economic growth, curbing inflation, and stabilizing the market. By the middle of February, the FEC will send to the assembly a proposal of further changes in foreign exchange law, and during this year a wide debate will be held on the foreign exchange system.

Besides implementing the adopted economic policy, a particularly significant task will be major changes in the economic system, without which there is no way out of the crisis. As early as next week it is expected that a commission will be formed which should as soon as possible start work on preparations for necessary economic reforms, Milosavljevic stressed. For changes in the economic system, of which some touch upon some ideological questions, it is necessary to involve creative forces of our community, its science, and practice. After all the federal administration, regardless of its qualification, is not in the position to mark new ways on its own.

Economic reforms will be carried out parallel to the changes to the SFRY Constitution or immediately afterwards and, in order to do this on time, it is necessary to give priority to these tasks. Therefore the formation of an expert commission is not an alibi for the FEC or shedding responsibility, rather, it is a way of seeking the best solutions and involvement of cadres which can make great contribution to the reform of the economic system, Milos Milosavljevic said.

After the speech by Milos Milosavljevic, there was a wide debate in which members of the council of the Federation with a great deal of emotion spoke about the present conditions in the country, also making proposals what should be done. [passage omitted]

Concluding the debate in which 13 members of the Council of the Federation took part, Lazar Mojsov, president of the SFRY Presidency, who presided over the debate, said that it was very useful and constructive. The proposals and views put forward, he added, will be put in a systematic form and send to organs authorized to adopt regulations and measures of significance for the achievement of changes in the political and economic systems. Since in the debate a great deal was said about the forthcoming LCY conference, Lazar Mojsov informed members of the Council of the Federation that

they would have an opportunity to take part in preparations for this meeting. When the LC Presidium draws up the thesis on the themes of the conference, they will be also sent to the members of the council of the Federation in order to get their suggestions, Lazar Mojsov said. Stressing that there are increasingly resolute approaches to the reform of the economic system, Mojsov recalled that a special commission was being formed in the FEC, and that it would have between 35 and 40 members. Since the commission will have a great number of teams and subgroups for various area, members of the council of the federation would also have a chance to take part in the work of the commission, Mojsov said. Mojsov also said that in April or May the SFRY Presidency would convene a session of the Council of the Federation at which the international position of our country would be discussed.

Milosavljevic Discusses Economic Issues

LD212151 Belgrade TANJUG in English
2016 GMT 21 Jan 88

[Text] Belgrade, Jan 21 (TANJUG)—The Yugoslav Government expects that its talks with foreign creditors will end in April this year, Deputy Prime Minister Milos Milosavljevic said today.

Speaking about the implementation of this year's economic policy at a session of the Council of the Federation (a consultative body composed of veteran politicians, scientists and public figures), Milosavljevic said that an agreement with foreign creditors was significant for maintaining the country's external liquidity, securing economic growth, curbing inflation and stabilizing the market.

According to latest world bank figures, the Yugoslav foreign debt now stands at 21.3 billion dollars. Due to internal illiquidity and a 167-percent inflation last year, Yugoslavia for the first time failed to meet its debt obligations. It therefore expects of its creditors to enable the rescheduling of a part of its debt, more favourable interest rates and long-term financial arrangements.

The deputy prime minister also said there would be major changes in the economic system without which there is no way out of the crisis.

The market is still unstable, which means that it should be allowed to become more open and that enterprises should be independent in their business operations, he said.

By the end of February the government will come out with a programme to consolidate internal debts, and by the end of March with a plan to liberalize prices of a number of articles.

However, price liberalization would not be effective without implementing the programme to curb inflation, warned Milosavljevic.

Youth Councils Debate Race Honoring Tito

Opposed by Vojvodina Youth

AU201112 Belgrade POLITIKA in Serbo-Croatian
17 Jan 88 p 6

[S.N. Report: "Without the Relay Race"]

[Text] Novi Sad, 16 Dec [as published]—The Vojvodina Federation of Socialist Youth Provincial Council today accepted its presidency's proposal not to continue the youth relay race. The young people of Vojvodina consider that the youth relay race, which first began as Tito's relay race, has "lost its justification and meaning" since his death. Explaining this position, Milan Vracevic, member of the Presidency, observed that it is politically unacceptable and immature to continue with mass gatherings and festivities at a time of three-figure inflation, drastic reductions in general spending, low incomes, and with all the difficulties in the education and employment of young people.

A generation which is forgoing much to pay its debts has also decided to forgo the relay race, the delegate Goran Matic said from the platform, and Branimir Brkljac, president of the Vojvodina Youth Federation also observed that returning the relay race baton to its proper place—the museum—would mean that young people would again accord it the respect it earned in Tito's lifetime.

At the conference, as well as in public discussion throughout Vojvodina, there were also different views supporting the idea that the Youth Day should be marked as it has until now. The conference expressed understanding for the minority in its ranks which declared itself in favor of the relay race, and declared itself ready to accept such a view if it prevails within the Socialist Youth Federation of Yugoslavia.

Supported by Bosnian Youth

AU211211 Belgrade BORBA in Serbo-Croatian
19 Jan 88 p 3

[M. Lucic Report: "United Over the Relay Race"]

[Text] Sarajevo, 18 Jan—The young people of Bosnia and Hercegovina in their public discussions on proposed ways of commemorating Youth Day have come out "in

favor of the relay race," but differences of opinion remain over the baton's journey and whether or not it should be carried. The Youth Day Commemoration Committee in Bosnia and Hercegovina, summing up the public discussion and the wishes of the majority of young people, declared that it supported the up-until-now traditional relay race.

It is proposed that the relay race should pass through every commune, or make a stop in those communes whose Socialist Youth Federation conferences wish and are able to organize appropriate ceremonies in its honor.

One of the conclusions of this committee was that the baton should be exclusively carried in the hands of young people, and that it should promote a sporting and competitive spirit. Mass sports gatherings and open athletic events are proposed. The meeting also proposed that in the future a message to young people should be read out in the Yugoslav People's Army Stadium, and that the relay race baton should not be passed from hand to hand, but placed in the 25 May Museum.

The Bosnia and Hercegovina Youth Day Commemoration Committee took the position, and this is the opinion of the majority of Socialist Youth Federation communal conferences, that there is no need to organize central and provincial mass gatherings on Youth Day.

The Presidency of the Bosnia and Hercegovina Republican Federation of Socialist Youth will give a final decision concerning these stands and proposals.

Also interesting is the proposal than a special referendum should be held in preparation for Youth Day celebrations in 1989, by which the young people of Yugoslavia will be able to declare how they wish to celebrate Youth Day.

The discussions today also warned that the discussions and differences of opinion concerning the way Youth Day should be celebrated should in no way be allowed to sow discord and misunderstanding among the republican and provincial youth leaders.